

The Steve Archibald story

PART ONE

SHOOT!

25p

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25th APRIL, 1981

Leicester City's Ian Wilson is chased by Terry McDermott of Liverpool.

**Bobby Robson
reveals
Ipswich's secret**

**Why
Cyrille Regis
is getting tougher**

**WIN A PLACE AT BOBBY CHARLTON'S
SOCCER SCHOOL +
BURTON'S NEW FIRST BASE GEAR**

SHOOT view!

PREDICTABLY, soccer's harshest critics reacted angrily to Joe Jordan's demand for an increase in wages from £500 a week to £1,000.

One journalist suggested Manchester United should invite Jordan to join the dole queue . . . or Stockport County.

Perhaps the man spreading the vitriol so liberally about one of Britain's best strikers needs reminding that a professional footballer's career lasts 20 years at the most, considerably less in many circumstances.

Twenty-nine-year-old Joe Jordan is engaged in a race against time. If he stays at United, he has less than five years left in the First Division.

And unlike racehorses, who are put out to grass and "kept" in comfort after retirement, footballers have to fend for themselves when their playing days are finished.

That is why Joe Jordan and many of his fellow professionals want all the money they can get in the limited time available to them at the top.

Is a wage of £1,000 that much to ask of one of the richest clubs in the country?

Soccer is part of the entertainment industry. Joe Jordan and his colleagues play to attendances of 40,000-plus at Old Trafford, five times the size of the average pop concert audience.

Popular

If people think Joe Jordan is overpaid for playing football, they should examine the fees asked by such stars as Rod Stewart. That popular northern entertainer Bernard Manning would demand much more for an appearance than United's leading scorer. And the comedian can ply his trade for at least another 30 years.

Jordan says honestly: "I have not been outrageous. I have valued myself at what I believe I am worth."

"I want security for my family. I am not asking for the world."

Unfortunately, Jordan will not find much public sympathy for his demands at a time of extreme hardship, especially in the industrial north.

But that division between player and fan, however wide, should not obscure the merits of Jordan's argument.

His lifestyle is not a bed of roses, rich living, long holidays, and fan worship.

Joe Jordan, contrary to his hell-raising image, is one of the most dedicated and gifted players in the game. His goals have given United impetus this season when they could have sunk without trace.

His efforts in recent weeks have done as much as any United player to fend-off some of the criticism being fired at Dave Sexton.

Joe Jordan's double-or-quits ultimatum is not as outrageous as it at first seems.

Remember, the star should always get more than the chorus line. And Joe's a star performer!

EASTER



can spell disaster for some clubs

THE Easter holiday programme is traditionally the most crucial period of the League season.

Three games in the space of four or five days have wrecked the promotion and Championship aspirations of many teams, while others have been condemned to relegation on the strength of a disastrous Easter.

This year will be no different, because for most clubs there will be just two League games remaining after Easter Monday.

But the removal of the traditional Good Friday games from the fixture list has at least helped to ease the pressure on those clubs with the most to lose as the season enters its final stage.

The First Division Championship has long since developed into a two-horse race between Ipswich and Aston Villa. Unless Ipswich draw their F.A. Cup Semi-Final with Manchester City, the two meet at Villa Park on Tuesday, April 14.

The match will undoubtedly place a greater strain on treble-chasing Ipswich, who now face one of the most gruelling schedules imaginable.

After the Villa game they take on

Arsenal on the Saturday, travel to neighbours Norwich on Easter Monday followed by a flight to Cologne for the second leg of the UEFA Cup Semi-Final two days later.

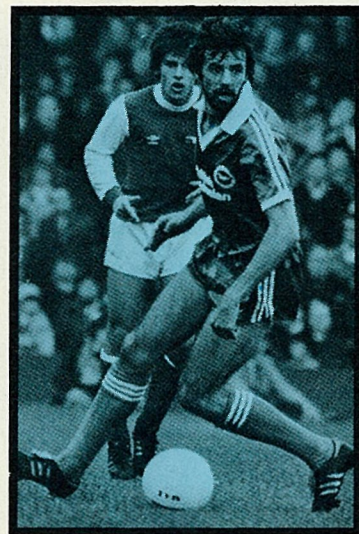
Striker Alan Brazil is well aware of the disastrous possibilities facing his side — lauded as the team of the season, it is possible Ipswich could finish empty-handed.

"We could lose the lot in the space of 12 days," Brazil admits. "Our main priority is the League, but we would obviously love to win all three."

"All we can do is take each game in turn and hope we can avoid any further injuries. Our schedule is so demanding there is virtually no time for knocks to heal before the next big match."

"Norwich will be trying harder than ever on Easter Monday because of their shaky position, although every club lifts their game when they play us. The longer we stay at the top, the harder each game becomes."

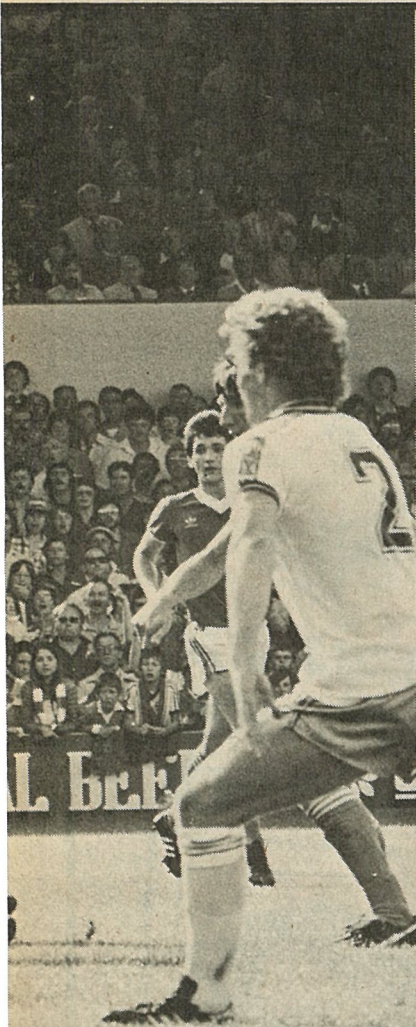
"We simply aim to win as many trophies as possible. If we go out of one — we will concentrate even harder on the others. Defeat won't rock our confidence — it will spur



us on even more."

Bobby Robson's men were overhauled at the top of the table recently following three successive away defeats, and Villa winger Tony Morley now reckons his side can be Champions.

"All they can do is to keep winning and wait for us to drop points."



Ipswich and Aston Villa (above) could determine the outcome of the League Championship when they clash at Villa Park. Norwich defender Greg Downs (right) and Brighton's Mark Lawrenson (left) both know a productive Easter is crucial if their clubs are to avoid relegation. But Grimsby (stripes, below right) could clinch a place in the First Division in their next few games.

If we don't drop any more we'll be Champions — and deservedly so," he says.

"Their recent run of away defeats will place a real strain on them, so our meeting at Villa Park on the 14th will be decisive."

After the Ipswich game, Villa then face Forest at home and Stoke away over Easter.

"Forest are sure to put up a hell of a fight, because they are still looking to qualify for Europe. Stoke always cause us a few problems, but then at this stage of the season you can't expect any easy games," Morley adds.

Behind these two, Forest, WBA, Liverpool, Southampton and Arsenal will all be looking to book a place in the UEFA Cup, knowing that dropped points over Easter could be fatal.

Yet if the destination of the title is

now down to just two clubs, at the foot of the table it could be any two from five or six clubs to accompany Crystal Palace into the Second Division.

The alarming recent form of Coventry and even Everton has left both on the fringe of the relegation battle, while the fine F.A. Cup form of Wolves has perhaps distracted them from their precarious League position.

The favourites for the drop, though, come from Norwich, Leicester and Brighton, and for Alan Mullery's side Easter could hardly have brought two more testing fixtures.

On Saturday they travel to already relegated Crystal Palace, followed by a home game against relegation rivals Leicester.

Defender Mark Lawrenson knows that defeat in either game could prove fatal.

"Palace will be a tough one," he says.

"This game has come to be regarded as a local derby, and just because they are already down doesn't mean they'll be out to do us any favours.

"The game against Leicester is the big one. If we win, it could be as good as sending them down in our place.

"If results don't go our way over Easter, we'll still have time to save ourselves, but it will be one hell of a fight.

"I don't care who goes down as long as it's not us."

That kind of dog eat dog attitude is prevalent among all the struggling

clubs, and while Norwich defender Greg Downs would love to see Ipswich bring some long overdue glory to East Anglia, there will be no love lost when the sides meet at Carrow Road on Easter Monday.

"We are away to Spurs and then at home to Ipswich, and we couldn't have had a couple of tougher games at this stage," says Downs.

"Games against Ipswich are always competitive, but this one is vital to both of us. After Easter we have just two matches left, so we have to take something from both these games if we are to stand a reasonable chance of staying up."

Leicester, a side who looked doomed to the drop earlier in the season, are at home to Southampton before their journey to Brighton.

Captain Mark Wallington claims: "Over the last eight weeks we have found our feet and are now playing as we should have been all season.

Advantage

"Easter will be a make or break period for us. I think home advantage could be an important factor against Southampton, but it is the game at Brighton which will prove decisive in the final reckoning.

"To use an old cliché — this one is a real four-pointer. Their goal difference is superior to ours, so we must win this one — it could be the difference between First and Second Division football next season."

One team already assured of a place in the top 22 next season are runaway Second Division leaders West Ham. They are now in the fortunate position of being able to sit back and enjoy the ride to the finishing line while others scramble for the minor places.

Notts County have a four-point cushion which should be enough to see them through, particularly as they have a relatively easy Easter programme at home to relegation threatened Preston and away to mid-table Cambridge.

But the third promotion spot remains the greatest enigma, with

Sheffield Wednesday, Grimsby, Blackburn, Chelsea, Swansea, Derby and Luton all still in the hunt.

With so many clubs involved in that maniac scramble, it is surprising that the only top of the table clash over Easter will be on Monday when Chelsea face Luton.

Yet, as Grimsby boss George Kerr points out, the pressure is so intense, those sides not involved in the promotion stakes will be able to play more relaxed football against their higher-placed opponents.

"We are at home to Oldham and then away to Newcastle," says Kerr. "In our present position, there is no way Oldham should get anything off us, although they have some good players who could worry us.

"But nobody laughs at the prospect of Newcastle at St James' Park on an Easter Monday, especially when the only pressure on them is to win in front of their own fans.

"I don't think this Easter will prove conclusive. We can afford to drop a point or two, because everybody else is doing the same.

"But it is the side who are most consistent between now and the end of the season who gain promotion, and we aim to be that club."

Blackburn player-manager Howard Kendall actually welcomes his side's two derby fixtures against Preston and Bolton.

"We have just come through a long run of fixtures against top sides, and our remaining games are all against teams in the lower half of the table," he explains.

"Two derby games will stop any of the players thinking we have an easy ride home now.

"The Second Division promotion race will go on until the very last kick of the season, but four points from our two Easter games can put us in a much stronger position."

So while nothing will be settled within the next few days, every club involved in a promotion or relegation battle knows how important the Easter programme will prove.

For those clubs seeking to improve their status, the holiday festivities have to be postponed until the end of the season.



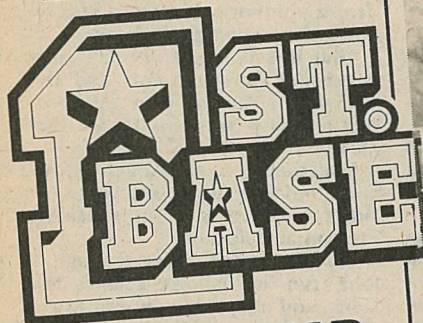
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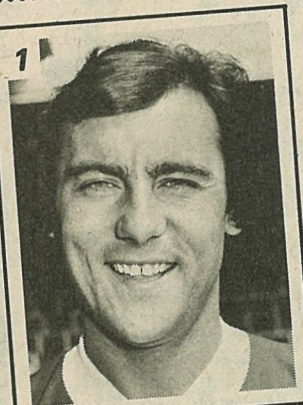
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Bobby Charlton's Residential Soccer School for boys aged 10-16, uses the facilities of the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology and has the Football Association seal of approval. Present-day players and ex-internationals add star quality to the coaching staff which is headed by Bobby himself. The five lucky First Prize winners will attend an all expenses paid course from MONDAY AUGUST 10th, 1981—FRIDAY AUGUST 14th inclusive. Also, each of the five winners will be kitted out with £50 worth of the fabulous BURTON 1st Base gear. Runners-up will receive a 1st Base exclusive limited edition tee-shirt.

● All you have to do is study the three photographs and identify the players and their clubs. Complete the coupon and post in a sealed envelope to: SHOOT/BURTON Competition, Lavington House, 25 Lavington Street, London SE1 0PF, to arrive not later than FRIDAY MAY 15th, 1981.



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First prize will be awarded to the five correct entries judged to be the neatest with age taken into account. Runners-Up prizes will be awarded for the 50 next best attempts. All prizes must be accepted as offered; there can be no alternative awards, cash or otherwise. Each first prize-winner must have parental consent before the prize can be awarded. Likewise first prize-winners must be taken to and collected from Bobby Charlton's Soccer School by a responsible adult. All attendant rail fares will be paid. The competition is open to readers in Great Britain and the Republic of Ireland, except employees and their families of IPC Magazines Ltd., the Burton Group and the printers of SHOOT. Decision of the judges and Editor in all matters affecting the competition will be final and no correspondence will be entered into. Entry implies acceptance of these rules as final and legally binding. Winners will be notified and results published in SHOOT as soon as possible.

**SOCCER
AS I SEE IT
Gary
Shaw**



'Aiming for a hat-trick against Shilton'

WATCH our Peter Shilton, I'm determined to complete a hat-trick against you when Villa play Forest at home on Easter Saturday (April 18th).

I've beaten Peter the last two times I've played against them in the First Division, a 2-1 defeat at the City Ground last season and a 2-2 draw on December 27th, 1980. I'm also aiming to be on target this weekend.

Villa were desperately unlucky not to have won at the City Ground over the Christmas period. We took the initiative and dictated the play. Villa surprised Forest that afternoon and threw them out of their stride.

Our first goal was scored by Larry Lloyd, who put through his own net. I struck Villa's second.

The move developed from our own penalty-area. Gary Williams cleared on the left-hand side where I picked up the ball.

Brilliant

I passed to Dennis Mortimer who completely switched the play with a brilliant pass to Kenny Swain on the right.

Meanwhile, I had made ground and was in the perfect position when Kenny drove the ball over low into their box. I volleyed the ball with my left peg to score probably my best goal of the season. The build up was brilliant.

Then right against the run of play Forest equalised a minute from time through Raimondo Ponte.

Although Villa deserved to win Forest are always a team to be feared. Even though the side is going through a period of change this season they are well-balanced and full of class players. But the one Forest player I admire above all others is Trevor Francis.

I often went along to Birmingham City just to watch him play when I was at school.

He stood out in the derby games against Villa, the club I've always

supported.

I've studied his approach to the game and tried to learn from him. Particularly how he lays balls off and finishes.

I try to match Trevor's goalscoring ability, of course, but the one thing I'll never beat him for is pace. Trev is amazingly fast.

There's no need for me or anyone else at Villa to get motivated for this game against Forest. We thrive on pressure and the big-match atmosphere.

Action from Villa's game against Stoke earlier this season, with Des Bremner clearing the Villa lines.



Gary celebrates his goal in the 2-2 draw at the City Ground last December.

Mind you, the game is of special significance to one Villa player — Peter Withe, a former Forest favourite.

Peter has nothing to prove to his old club, or boss Brian Clough. As far as I know there are no vendettas.

I've almost come into contact with Cloughie myself. I was a member of the England Youth squad when he was in charge, but I didn't see much of him. In fact we never spoke to each other.

He only turned up for a few training sessions at Lillleshall to shout instructions from the touch-line. Ken Burton was really in control, but he didn't stay around for very long. The situation was very difficult for him.

Whatever they say about Brian Clough, you must admire his record. Very few managers have built two Championship winning sides with different clubs.

After playing Cloughie's Forest this Saturday, Villa travel to Stoke City on Easter Monday in search of another two vital Championship points. So, it will mean a quiet Easter Sunday for me at home with my feet up.

I'll probably play a few records and then take my golden retriever Sam for a walk. I've also got a fish pond but haven't seen much of them lately because the water is too murky.

Dad says he expects me to clean the pond out first chance I get. So while many of you are opening your Easter eggs I'll be up to my arms in mud and sludge.

Hope it's not muddy at the Victoria Ground next Monday. We beat Stoke 1-0 at Villa Park on Boxing Day thanks to a Peter Withe goal.

It was a dour game. Stoke made life difficult for us with their defensive approach. Perhaps they'll be in a more attacking spirit on their own ground.

I only know a couple of the Stoke lads, Lee Chapman and Iain Munro.

Team-mate

Lee, who is more of the old fashioned type of centre-forward, was a team-mate for the England Under-21s against the Republic of Ireland recently.

England played a different style to what Lee's been used to and he was pulled off at half-time. I thought he had done quite well and felt desperately sorry for him.

Villa had Munro down on trial earlier in the season, but things didn't work out for him and he returned to St Mirren.

We used him as a left-back. Now he's operating in midfield for Stoke.

Villa must collect maximum points this Easter if we are to maintain our slender lead over Ipswich in the battle for the League Championship.

Meanwhile, Villa fans have been voting for the club's Player of the Year. The award will be presented at the annual Supporter's Club dance in the Jubilee Club this Saturday.

Kenny Swain and Allan Evans, winners for the past two seasons, must come into the reckoning again this time.

But then so must Peter Withe, Ken McNought, Dennis Mortimer, Des Bremner, Jimmy Rimmer — the 1978 winner — Tony Morley, Gary Williams and Gordon Cowans.

That's right — the whole Villa side. Our performance this season has been built on a team effort rather than individual skill and everyone has played a vital part in keeping up the Championship challenge.

See you again in two weeks . . .

Bas Williams

Gordon Cowans

CHELSEA goalkeeper Petar Borota is hoping to spend a few weeks training with rivals Arsenal this summer — to study his idol Pat Jennings. Says Petar: "As far as I am concerned, Pat is the best 'keeper around and I'd love to see how he does it at first hand." He has asked Bobby Gould, a former Arsenal star who is now Chelsea's assistant manager, to try to arrange to join the Highbury training sessions.

Iley's rocket works

SOME players need a kick up the backside every now and again, and Bury centre-forward Steve Johnson certainly got one from manager Jim Iley recently.

Steve had scored only once in 19 matches, and Iley told him that not only his place, but his career in the game was at stake, and dropped him into the reserves to regain confidence.

Johnson scored all right — but would you believe it was an own goal! Happily, the feel of putting the ball in the net must have worked. He returned to the first team the following Saturday — and scored — this time for Bury!

FORMER Spurs star and skipper of the famous 'push-and-run' team of 1951 Ronnie Burgess is now a warehouseman in Harrow and no longer connected with big-time football.

Ronnie made his Spurs debut in 1939, at right-half, and went on to clock up 300 League appearances before leaving in 1954 to move into management with Swansea, Watford, Hendon and Bedford.

He gained 32 Welsh caps and now lives in Stanmore, Middlesex.

Too old? Never!

FOOTBALLERS retire too early because of the ill-conceived theory that they are "over the top" after they have celebrated their 30th birthdays.

That is the viewpoint of Manchester City's Dennis Tueart, who mentions Alan Ball as a shining example of how experience and enthusiasm can keep a player at the top after others have retired.

"Ball is still going strong at 35, but that doesn't come as a surprise to me and a lot of other people in the game," says Tueart.

"My experience with England taught me Alan is more than just an inspiring character who can be relied on to produce total effort and determination in every match."

Other "golden oldies" listed by Tueart include, Archie Gemmill, Martin Buchan, Tommy Hutchison, Franz Beckenbauer, the 35-year-old defender who is now starring for Hamburg at the top of the German League, and former Brazilian ace Carlos



Carlos Alberto (centre) and the great Franz Beckenbauer (left) in action for the Cosmos against Toronto in July, 1978.

Alberto, still playing superbly for New York Cosmos at 36.

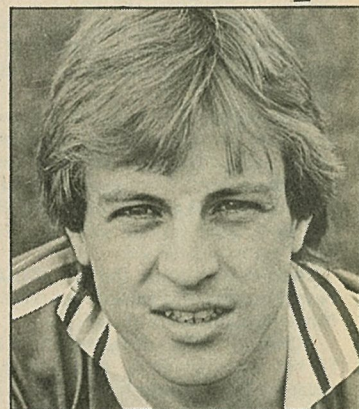
Tueart forgot to mention another experienced campaigner still posing problems for defenders in the First Division. Himself!

Bobby's promotion streak

RAITH ROVERS fans have got an added boost to their hopes for the team's promotion to the Premier Division with the signing of Airdrie striker Bobby Russell. Every club Bobby has played for have won promotion.

Four years ago he helped Alloa Athletic move up to the First Division. Then he moved to Morton, who won promotion to the Premier. Next was Airdrie, who stepped up with Hearts to the top Division. Now it's the turn of Raith Rovers.

First and last Irish cap



EVERTON'S Eamonn O'Keefe (above) didn't have a great game on his debut for Eire against Wales. And to make matters worse a few days after the Welsh game FIFA ruled that he was ineligible to play for the land of his grandparents because he had already represented England at non-League level.

Unfortunately, O'Keefe is now out for the season after suffering a broken leg recently.

THE NEW KENNY DALGLISH

AN 18-year-old Liverpool fanatic was fed-up being plain Alan O'Hare. He thought the name was dull, so he spent £12 to change it by deed poll.

His new Christian name is Kenny. And, yes, you've guessed it, his surname is Dalglish.

Alan, sorry, Kenny, insists that all his workmates at a tubular furniture factory in Liverpool address him by his new name.

So, while Kenny Dalglish is scoring goals for Liverpool, he is roared on by Kenny Dalglish on the Kop.



THE first London Programme Fair will be held at the Riverside Suite, Fulham Football Club, on Easter Sunday (April 19th).

The fair runs from 11.00am-4.00pm, with admission at 30p for adults and 25p for juniors. Some 100,000 programmes will be on display, and in the five hours that the fair is open to the public, an expected 50,000 programmes will be sold or exchanged.

NEWS DESK

Compiled by
BILL DAY



Rochdale worship

OVER 30 Brentford diehards are suffering from divided loyalties. Because they have fallen in love with Fourth Division Rochdale.

So passionate is their new love affair that they are forming a Brentford branch of the Rochdale supporters club.

Letters have already been exchanged between London and Lancashire confirming the connection.

One Brentford supporter said: "When I first went to Rochdale to watch Brentford, I fell in love with the place."

Another admitted to having a passion for the Spotland club and said it had nothing to do with the fact that Brentford always beat them. (The Bees have taken 21 points from Rochdale from the last 11 meetings of the two clubs).

This incongruous support reached new heights after the recent Brentford v Portsmouth match when three Bees fans left Griffin Park at 4.30pm in order to travel to Torquay where Rochdale were playing a night match.

MANCHESTER United full-back Arthur Albiston is the odd man out at Old Trafford. Albiston is the ONLY member of United's current first team squad who's either not won a full international cap or is currently not involved in "B" internationals and Under-21 games.

United's list of current internationals:

ENGLAND: Steve Coppel, Ray Wilkins, Garry Birtles, Gary Bailey (B-team), and Mike Duxbury (Under-21s).

SCOTLAND: Martin Buchan, Gordon McQueen, Joe Jordan and Lou Macari.

N. IRELAND: Sammy McIlroy, Tom Sloan and Jimmy Nicholl.

EIRE: Kevin Moran, Ashley Grimes and Paddy Roche.

WALES: Mike Thomas.

YUGOSLAVIA: Nikola Jovanovic.

Hitched to 'Quakers'

HITCH-HIKER Roger Wicks thumbed a lift to Darlington.

Now, the Darlington manager Billy Elliott is hoping that striker Wicks can help put the Fourth Division team on the road to promotion next season.

Wicks, aged 22, spent seven months hitch-hiking round the world before ending up at Darlington and signing full-time a few weeks later.

"It's not as daft as it seems," said Elliott. "I've known Wicks since he was 16 and he's a big, strong player with lots of skill."

Wicks was playing in the Northern Premier League, but decided to quit football to broaden his outlook by touring round the world.

ROBINSON'S AWARD FOR PAUL



WEST HAM striker Paul Goddard was chosen as the Robinson's Barley Water Player of the Month for February, by the panel of judges that include Bill Shankly, Bill Nicholson, Mike England and Ron Greenwood.

Paul also received a cheque for £250 which he donated to his nominated charity, the Boys Brigade. He is a Warrant Officer in the organisation and retains an active interest despite West Ham's hectic season.

"It's good to see one of the nice guys of football win this award," says manager John Lyall. "Paul is so eager to learn. I'm sure he will go on to win many more important honours in the game."

Apart from the monthly awards, the major prize for Robinson's Player of the Year is a new Rover car.

Here SHOOT Editor Peter Stewart shares Paul's proud moment at a special ceremony at Upton Park.

● Other award winners this season are: Gary Shaw (Villa), Craig Johnston and David Hodgson (Boro), Joe McBride (Everton), Steve Mackenzie (Man. City) and Garry Thompson (Coventry).

BLACKPOOL'S hopes of signing Frank Worthington vanished when Alan Ball departed Bloomfield Road. Worthington, 32, said he would sign for Blackpool after returning from America at the end of summer but has now changed his mind.

Scotland youth rally

THE oil capital of Scotland is to be the home of a festival of youth football which will attract teams from all over the world.

It starts on July 28th, the opening date of a week of football and fun where boys from 13 to 17 years of age will compete for the Aberdeen Cup. Trophies will also be awarded for individual skills and the best players from Britain will play a show match against the best of the visiting players. This match will take place at Pittodrie on 2nd August, the last day of the festival.

Teams are expected from most European countries as well as from Israel, Venezuela and the United States. Special interest has been shown in the competition by the city of Aberdeen in Hong Kong as well as the twin towns of Staveland, Regensburg and Denver USA.

British teams who would like to join in the fun should contact the organisers **ANGLO-WORLD TRAVEL** at 30 Stafford Street, Edinburgh.

DIXON

BERWICK RANGERS' young defender Steve Dixon, a pre-season acquisition from Wearside League club Blue Star, is attracting a lot of attention from leading clubs in both England and Scotland.

RON SAUNDERS, Aston Villa's manager, has made a lot of good signings in his managerial career, and one of the best is Kenny Swain.

He snapped up Swain as a disenchanted winger from Chelsea for £100,000 and then converted him into a right-back following the transfer of John Gidman to Everton.

Commenting on his days at Chelsea, Swain said: "I was there when they gained promotion to the First Division. But I was always on the fringe of the first team and I remember the day they gained promotion I went out shopping with my wife."

He has no regrets about his move to Villa, which has put him into the spotlight and the opportunity to appear in a lot of good games this season.

Now Kenny, who has been tipped for England honours, is hoping to help Villa to the League Championship title.

Briefly...

● Alan Boxall, a 20-year-old left winger with Scunthorpe, has a couple of unusual hobbies. He breeds ferrets and reads Ugandan mythology!

Alan, who joined Scunthorpe from his local club, Ashby-de-la-Zouch Academicals, also had a trial with Grimsby Town.

● A number of clubs are casting envious eyes at Joe Joyce, Barnsley's 19-year-old right-back.

The youngster from Consett, County Durham, first went to Barnsley as a non-contract player. He made his League debut against Reading in January, 1980.

● Alex Gibson, a 17-year-old central defender with

Birmingham, looks like being a chip off the old block.

His dad, also Alex, played for Notts County from 1959 to 1969 and was captain for the last eight years. He played at half back in those days.

Young Alex has played for Hounslow and Middlesex schools and been in the England Youth squad. His family now live at Ealing, London.

● Promising young midfielder Russell Burtenshaw could be Southampton's gain and both Brighton's and Crystal Palace's loss.

The 18-year-old had spells at the Goldstone Ground and Selhurst Park before joining Saints.

● West Ham goalie Phil Parkes is set to achieve one of his long-standing sporting ambitions — thanks to referee Clive Thomas. The Welsh

whistler has promised to provide Phil with tickets for a Rugby international at Cardiff's famous Arms Park — something Phil has always wanted to see.

● After reaching the League Cup Final earlier this season, Galway Rovers have slipped badly and are now in danger of having to apply for re-election to the League of Ireland.

● Archie Gemmill, Birmingham City's captain, is man enough to admit that he was wrong to write off Aston Villa earlier in the season.

He said: "I didn't reckon they were good enough to even qualify for Europe."

"I've had to change my mind, because they have really produced some outstanding form over the past few months and if they can maintain these kind of results they must rate their chances."

Long arm of the Law

● Roy Chester wanted a better view of the England team in training at London Colney, Hertfordshire.

Most 13-year-olds would have climbed a tree. Not Roy, who lives at Kentish Town, London.

He borrowed the broad shoulders of friendly Metropolitan policeman Sgt John Warren for a bird's eye view of Kevin Keegan, Glenn Hoddle and the rest.



Memorable Cup Finals

RELIVE the moment Stan Matthews won the F.A. Cup for Blackpool, recall Tottenham's 2-0 victory over Leicester in 1961 and the drama of Arsenal's sensational last ditch win over Manchester United in 1979.

Recorded highlights from these and other Cup Finals are captured on a new LP produced by Trebor in conjunction with the Football Association to celebrate the 100th F.A. Cup Final.

"Memorable Cup Finals" is on sale now and available from Wilson McLaren Purvis, 299/300 Upper Street, Islington, London N1 2HU. Price £3.99 to include post and packing.

SAM ELLIS has got his eye on a career in management. The ex-Sheffield Wednesday, Mansfield, Watford and Lincoln defender has been working as a coach at Vicarage Road, Watford, for two years now and admits: "I'm certainly enjoying the coaching side. In fact, I don't get time to think otherwise. My work includes taking the reserves and watching future first team opponents."

"I would love to go on and manage a club. It's got to be the right job, though. I would have to think hard before leaving Watford."



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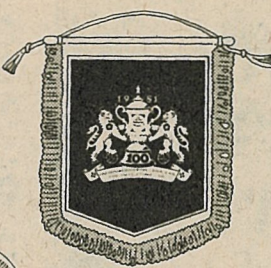
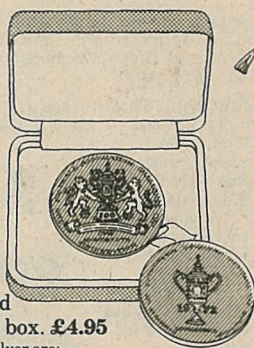


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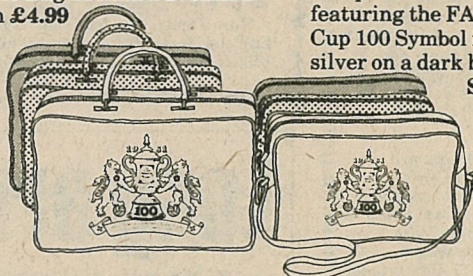
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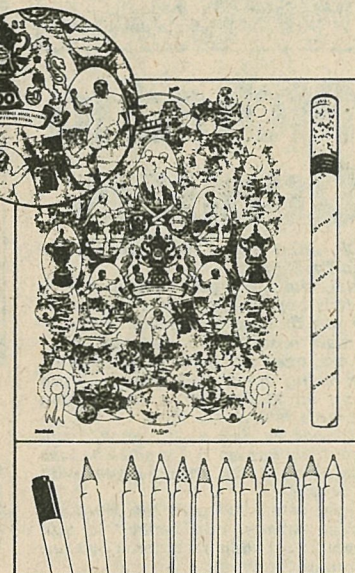


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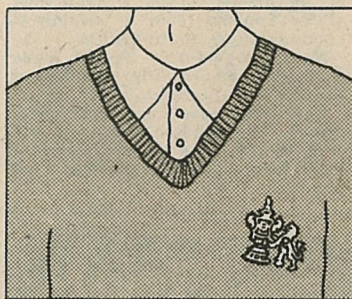
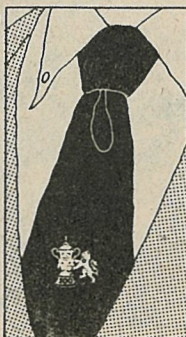
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Two former League stars talk about their new careers in America.

lies the story of Daley's unhappy stay at Maine Road. Ever since his record breaking transfer from Wolves, he struggled to live up to the £1 million tag which was to sink his career.

Daley admits: "It put so much more pressure on me. People were looking at me and saying 'he's not worth a million quid'. But I never said I was.

"I don't think there is a player around who is worth that. I don't know what people expect but whatever it is, I found I was unable to live up to the billing.

"I tried not to let it get to me, but I didn't always succeed in that."

Daley believes he was unfortunate to step into a City side which was bleeding youngsters too quickly. "There wasn't a lot of experience in the team and that's what wrecked Malcolm's ambition," he said. "Nicky Reid and Tommy Caton were just kids yet they were key members of the defence. I was unfortunate to walk into a club in that kind of situation."

Daley chose Seattle Sounders "because they convinced me it's a good club and an excellent chance

BITTER DALEY

AS Manchester City were preparing for one of the most important games of their season — an F.A. Cup Quarter-Final replay with Everton — their record signing was boarding a jet at London's Heathrow Airport.

Steve Daley flew out to a new life in the United States, ironically just 24 hours before Manchester City's successful bid for a place in this season's Semi-Finals.

Looking back is easy, but there is little doubt Malcolm Allison's sad exit from Maine Road signalled the start of the end for Steve Daley, Manchester City's costliest ever buy at a cool £1.25 million.

Quietly

As John Bond produced a near miracle, Daley left quietly, packing up his home just outside Manchester. The day before City replayed with Everton, he led his family on to the plane for Seattle and the start of a five-year contract with the North American club.

Sad? "Of course I am," said Daley, just before his departure. "Also bitter at the way things turned out. But it's life and I knew I had to rescue my career. I was given the opportunity to start again with a new club in a new country, and I accepted."

But behind the bland statement

for me." He adds: "I am pleased to be making a fresh start. People might say I'm too young to go to America, but Dennis Tueart went when he was 28, and he even came back to play more First Division football.

"I'm not saying I'll do that. I've signed a five-year contract with Seattle and I intend to see it out. As regards the English winter, I believe I will be involved in the North American Indoor League so I don't envisage returning.

"I've made the decision to go and my whole family is looking forward to it. I'm sad at the way things materialised at City. It could have been terrific; it just didn't work out, that's all.

"I don't want to criticise Malcolm unduly. He could easily have achieved what John Bond has if he'd got a couple more experienced players to help the youngsters progress gradually. That's all Bond has done and if Malcolm had done that, I suppose it could have been a different story for me.

"In some ways I'm disappointed I'm not still there. But I believe I had to make a decision, and I made it. You must do what you think is right and I believe I have done the right thing in signing for Seattle. But looking back I've got to admit I'm sad at the way things worked out at Manchester City."

DUNCAN McKenzie cast a sad last look at English football as he flew out recently to fulfil a two-year contract with Tulsa.

The Americans, without a doubt, will love him. But English football still hasn't been able to compromise itself enough to live easily with someone like McKenzie.

He says: "The state the game is in now, I dread to think what it will be like ten years from now. People are strangling the game and they can't even see it."

McKenzie was shuttled between Nottingham Forest, Mansfield, Leeds, Anderlecht, Everton, Chelsea and finally Blackburn Rovers before taking the almost inevit-

and shot him off to Chelsea as soon as he could.

Once again, the manager who got McKenzie on forms got the bullet almost before the ink was dry. The victim at Chelsea was Ken Shellito.

At Blackburn, though, McKenzie found a manager who really appreciated his talents. And for whom he was prepared to make concessions himself.

"I played in midfield and got more involved than before. But though Howard Kendall wanted me to play the way that was best for the side, I was still able to provide entertainment.

"I probably had more enjoyment during my time at Blackburn than during most of my time in the First Division."

The cynics will say McKenzie has wasted his talent, but he denies that. "I've been unlucky in terms of fulfilling my career. But the money I have made and the appreciation the fans have given me has more than made up for that."

SAD MCKENZIE

able journey to America.

He says: "The way I've been pushed out of clubs, you'd think I was some kind of bad boy.

"But it's not true. I feel I've been let down by managers and at the end of the day, it's what they want that counts.

"They have to decide whether they want someone who can't pass a ball but will run all day, or someone who can play but does his own thing.

"I've always been the kind to do the entertaining.

'Physical'

"I accept that I'm not the sort of player you look to in a crisis. I'm not a physical player or a good defender. If the team is under pressure, I tend to fall down."

For all that, he doesn't believe he is a bad player or one that has deserved the treatment he's received.

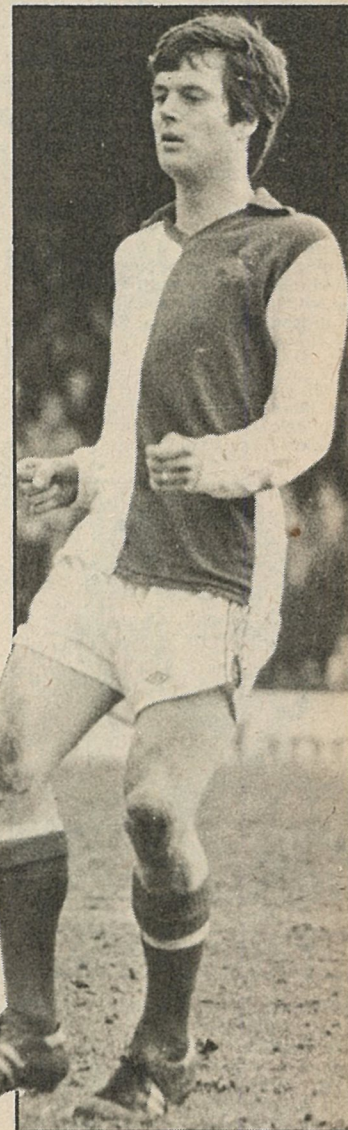
He's also been extremely unlucky with his managers. Five times, managers have been sacked soon after signing McKenzie — and the new man in has got rid of him as soon as possible.

He might have become a big star at Leeds if Brian Clough had stayed. But when he left, McKenzie says: "I was out of the team more than I was in it because of politics.

"I was the best player in Britain but Don Revie didn't pick me for England — and that was probably because of the Clough business as well."

After a sojourn in Anderlecht, McKenzie returned to another big club in England. Everton looked tailor-made for him. But ten days after Billy Bingham signed him, he was sacked.

New boss Gordon Lee dismissed McKenzie as a "tanner ball player"



GOAL-LINES

Send your letters to STEVE CARTER, GOAL-LINES, SHOOT!, IPC Magazines Ltd., King's Reach Tower, Stamford St., London SE1 9LS. U.K. readers receive £10 for the Star Letter — £4 for every other published. Overseas readers receive a special SHOOT T-shirt. Please state which size: small, medium or large. When writing to us please mention the two features you liked best in the latest issue of SHOOT! All letters must be exclusive to SHOOT!

This week's Star Letter comes from James Hastings of Dalbeattie, who wins our Special Prize of £10. He writes:

GREIG UNDER FIRE

★ Once again Rangers have had another disappointing season, a fact rendered all the more unpalatable by manager John Greig's obvious reluctance to give a chance to the younger players on his staff.

The veteran players do not seem capable of sustaining the consistency required to bring honours to Ibrox Stadium, a state of affairs which is not new to the club as this season is almost a repeat of the last one.

The present first team lacks the balance of styles which all successful sides possess; we have naturally left-footed players such as Davie Cooper and Willie Johnston being persistently played out of position on the right wing.

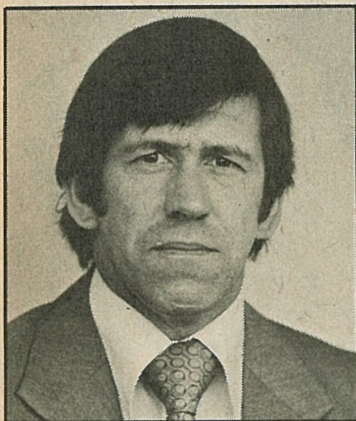
Attacking strategy appears to be based on the age-old ploy of high balls directed towards centre-forward Colin McAdam, who hurls himself around like a misguided missile and attempts to head high and low crosses alike, a not very skilful or effective approach.

This, of course, takes place whenever he is not attempting to assist the referee in the running of the game.

In midfield we have the nonsensical practice of Bobby Russell being employed to harry and chase opposing players — an action which is tantamount to using a Rolls-Royce as a stock-car.

If manager John Greig would only take a chance and use the younger players at his disposal in addition to bringing a few more people to Ibrox he would realise what talent he has available, with players of the calibre of Steve Richardson, Billy Mackay, Robert Clark and Douglas Robertson to name but four.

● With Celtic winning the Championship, there will be a lot of pressure on Greig (below) to give Rangers fans what they expect: success.



Rough justice

HOW dare Danny McGrain call Alan Rough world-class!

To deserve that kind of recognition you have to perform consistently brilliantly at both club and international level. And Rough certainly hasn't!

If he's world-class what does that make Peter Shilton?

C. PARISH, EDMONTON.

● I wouldn't say Rough was world-class, but in fairness he's a much better keeper than he was two or three years ago.

No Sunday soccer

I ACCEPT the fact that to many people football is losing its attraction, but I do not believe altering clubs' fixtures to a Sunday will be beneficial in the long term.

I can think of two immediate disadvantages.

i) Public transport, being more irregular than it is during the week, is unreliable, thus a supporter would have to allow more time for travelling and consequently, with a Sunday morning or afternoon kick-off, might be deprived of his Sunday lunch, which most people would find inconvenient.

ii) Before the season began many critics claimed that too much televised soccer reduced the attendances, so surely with Match of the Day on Sunday afternoons, even fewer viewers would prefer to watch a live game.

My personal preference is for Saturday soccer for the top clubs and Friday night games for the lower Divisions.

Only derby matches, which are almost guaranteed large attendances, should consider Sunday games.

NIGEL STEAD, WALLINGTON.

● Overall, Sunday soccer hasn't been a success. Once the novelty has worn off it doesn't really have that much to offer.

Scrap offside

I HAVE what I think is an interesting idea to stop any offside arguments like the one in the League Cup Final.

Why not abolish the offside rule completely except if the ball is played from your own half?

This would stop the frustrating offside trap, it could make for more open and free flowing football, but would also stop people standing in the opposing goalmouth all the time.

JEFF HORSBURGH, OAKHAM.

● A better solution would be to take the emphasis away from the referee — anyone in an offside position is interfering with play. As Bill Shankly once said: "If a player isn't interfering with play, what's he doing on the field?"

No chance

AFTER England's bumbling displays against Norway, Rumania and Spain, I really cannot see them beating Brazil at Wembley in May.

When they play Brazil, England will come up against players with skill and imagination and finishing power.

The game will probably show us just how far English football has slipped.

E. LAWRENCE, GREENWICH.

● On the other hand England could beat Brazil, as they did Argentina last year ... and flatter to deceive.



Loyal Trevor

THE football critics have been proved wrong again, this time by the West Ham and England midfielder Trevor Brooking.

A few seasons ago when West Ham were relegated to the Second Division there was a lot of pressure on Trevor from the media to move to a more successful First Division club, as his talent would be wasted in the Second Division, and his England place could be in jeopardy.

He chose to stay with his only club. This proved to be the right decision. He has helped The Hammers to win the F.A. Cup, reach the League Cup Final, reach the Cup-Winners' Cup Quarter-Finals in fine style, and become run-away leaders of the Second Division title race.

Trevor (above) has also kept his England place and remained one of the most talented players in England.

ALLAN ROBERTS, CATERHAM.

● I think the Brooking/Devonshire mid-field partnership will be good enough to help West Ham do relatively well in Division One next season.

Cockney Irish

I FEEL I must put forward my views on the Republic of Ireland's inability to choose home-grown players for the national team.

After watching their excellent victory over Cyprus by 6-0, an R.T.E. interviewer was talking with Chris Hughton and Tony Grealish.

Anyone just turning on their TV may have been forgiven for not realising that they were listening to two of their national sportsmen, since their Cockney accents were most overpowering.

When a country begins to go back generations, as in the case of Michael Robinson, in order to obtain a player for the national team or, as in Eamonn O'Keefe's case, an English international, then the sense of patriotism becomes laughable.

One only has to look at Eire's international versus Wales when no less than six English-born players wore the green of the Republic.

Perhaps if the Republic of Ireland ever win the World Cup they will parade it in Liverpool, the Midlands, London and Brighton and then, if there is time, they will pop over to Dublin to give their supporters a quick glance.

REPUBLIC FAN, CO. FERMANAGH.

● I repeat what I've said before: the ruling should apply only to players whose parents have different ancestry.

ASK THE EXPERT

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The same Phil Parkes?

As a keen American soccer fan, I'd like to know if the Phil Parkes who's been playing for Chicago Sting is the famous West Ham goalkeeper?

RICHARD GEORGE, U.S.A.

● No, Richard, there are two 'keepers of the same name — and, oddly enough, they were born near each other in the English Midlands.

This Phil Parkes, though, is the one who played 313 Football League games for Wolverhampton Wanderers before leaving them in March, 1978.

Welsh Stein

Is it true that Jock Stein once played non-League football in Wales?

ALAN GARDNER, MIDLOTHIAN

● Quite true, Alan. The Scottish team-manager, earlier a miner in Lanarkshire, had been a rather undistinguished centre-half with Albion Rovers before being released.

He joined Llanelli, in the Welsh League, in 1950 — but, when the house he'd left behind in Hamilton was twice burgled, Stein decided to give up the game and return home to the pits.

But, before he could make the break from the game in 1951, he was told to 'phone Celtic — who, at that time, were seeking an older hand to prop up the inexperience of their young reserve side.

So he eagerly returned home — only to find their regular first-choice centre-half had become injured.

Instead, he went straight into the League side — soon to captain it and later, of course, to become the club's highly successful European Cup-winning manager.

SHORT PASSES

● Huddersfield won the F.A. Cup in 1922, beating beating Preston 1-0; and were beaten Finalists in 1920, 1928, 1930, and 1938.

(BEVERLEY WOODING, Bradford)

● Middlesbrough's most-capped player is Wilf Mannion (26 full games for England between 1946-67 and 1951-52).

(STUART BUSHBY, Australia)

● Manchester United have won the F.A. Cup four times (1909, 1948, 1963, 1977) to Liverpool's twice (1965, 1974).

(ANDREW KNEEN, Isle of Man)

● Fulham manager Malcolm MacDonald gained 14 full caps for England between the 1971-72 and 1975-76 seasons — scoring six goals. (WESLEY WROUGHTON, Nottinghamshire).

Short Passes are replies to readers' letters.



'Rumania will be petrified'

THERE still seems to be a national gloom following England's 2-1 defeat by Spain last month. I have two messages for our fans still in the doldrums after the Wembley reverse:

- Rumania won't come out and attack as Spain did, because the game on April 29th is a World Cup-tie.

- They'll be petrified of playing at Wembley.

I read that the Rumania coach said his team have nothing to fear playing at Wembley. We'll see. So many times we've heard this bravado from foreign coaches, either saying they have no chance or they're going to wipe the floor with us. Nine times out of ten it works the opposite way.

Experiment

Spain were adventurous. They could afford to be. It was only a friendly and they used it to experiment. No way will Rumania adopt a similar attitude. When did you last see anyone come to Wembley in a World Cup-tie and play attacking football?

In Bucharest the Rumanians looked quite useful down the flanks. I doubt if their forwards will be in evidence as much next time.

Rumania, like all Eastern European countries, aren't noted for being good travellers. In their own country they're difficult to beat — away it's another story.

I think people have over-reacted to the Spain defeat. Okay, we played badly. The players were very disappointed at not giving the loyal Wembley fans more to cheer about.

Ron Greenwood picked what, on paper, was a strong team. It just didn't come off, though. I felt a bit sorry for new boys Russell Osman and Terry Butcher. In many ways it



ABOVE: "Rumania will not be so hard to beat when they travel to Wembley."

RIGHT: "Bryan Robson was England's best player against Spain."

would have been easier for them to have made their Wembley debuts against Rumania. I just can't see them going forward as much as Spain did.

It takes a player about ten internationals before he starts to feel at home. When I came into the team I wanted to justify myself to my teammates, winning their respect straight away. Looking at Ipswich's defensive record this season, you won't find any striker who doesn't respect Russell and Terry.

Paul Mariner and Trevor Francis never got going — yet they are the two most in-form English strikers around. Three days after failing to score against Spain both were on the scoresheet for their clubs.

I was pleased to see Bryan Robson — probably our best player against Spain — and Glenn Hoddle doing well. Glenn scored a marvellous goal... had it been scored by a Brazilian it would have been shown



50 times on TV. The trouble is Glenn scores so many of these goals we've come to expect them from him.

I believe we are good enough to qualify for Spain. A lot can happen in a year and I stand by my conviction that our players are as good as anyone's.

Youngsters like Glenn and Graham Rix can take the lace out of the ball. Given another season and more confidence, who knows what might happen?

The squad desperately want to reward the Wembley supporters with a good win. They were as

frustrated as we were at losing to Spain, although I cannot condone the booing of Phil Neal. I hate to see any player singled out like this and I remember how upset I was when it happened to Eddie McCreadie at Chelsea.

It's been suggested that we should prepare more thoroughly. I was in one of Don Revie's squads when the previous Saturday's League programme was postponed. While it eliminated injuries a few days before the match, I found that having so much time on my hands away from home I became a little bored. In this respect it's better to arrive on the Sunday, charged up and ready to go.

Bonus

My aim is simply to play the full 90 minutes. It was a bonus to come on for the last 20 minutes against Spain, but it's not easy to get into the game under such circumstances.

Hopefully I'll be in the United team to play West Brom this Saturday and pit my wits against Bryan Robson. United and West Brom have been involved in some high-scoring games in recent years, with United coming off the worse.

But after a spell of poor results, we now seem to be putting a winning run together, and we'll certainly give Albion a game.

Join me again in a fortnight,

Ray Wilkins

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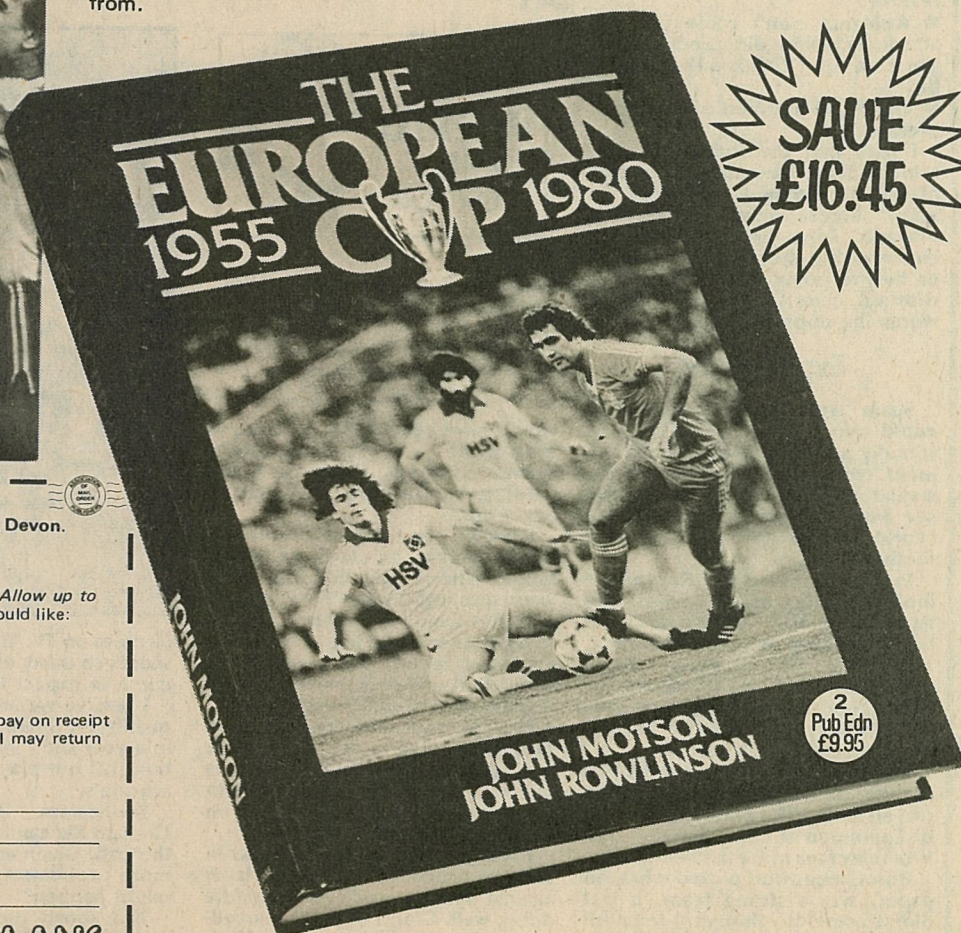
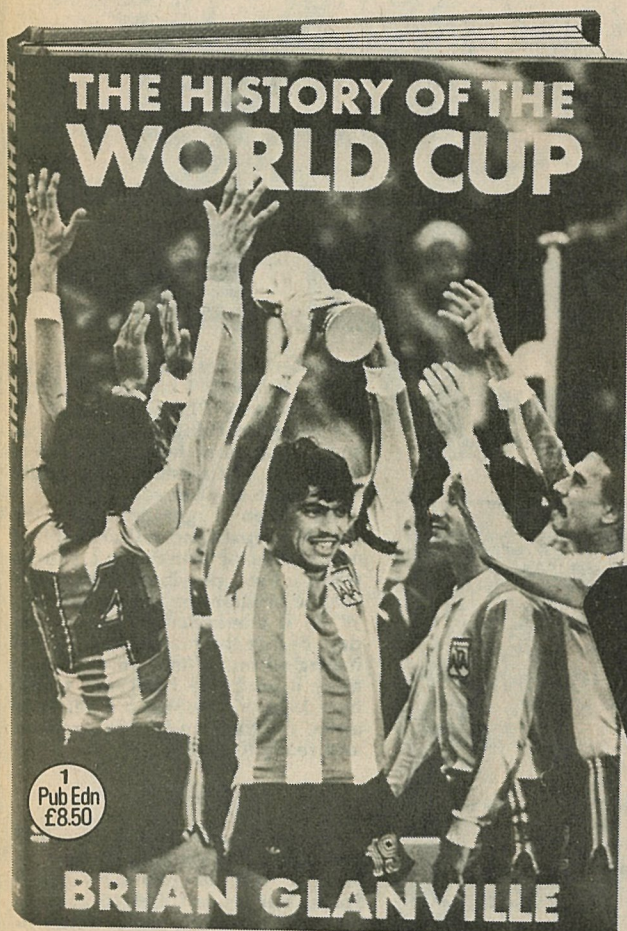
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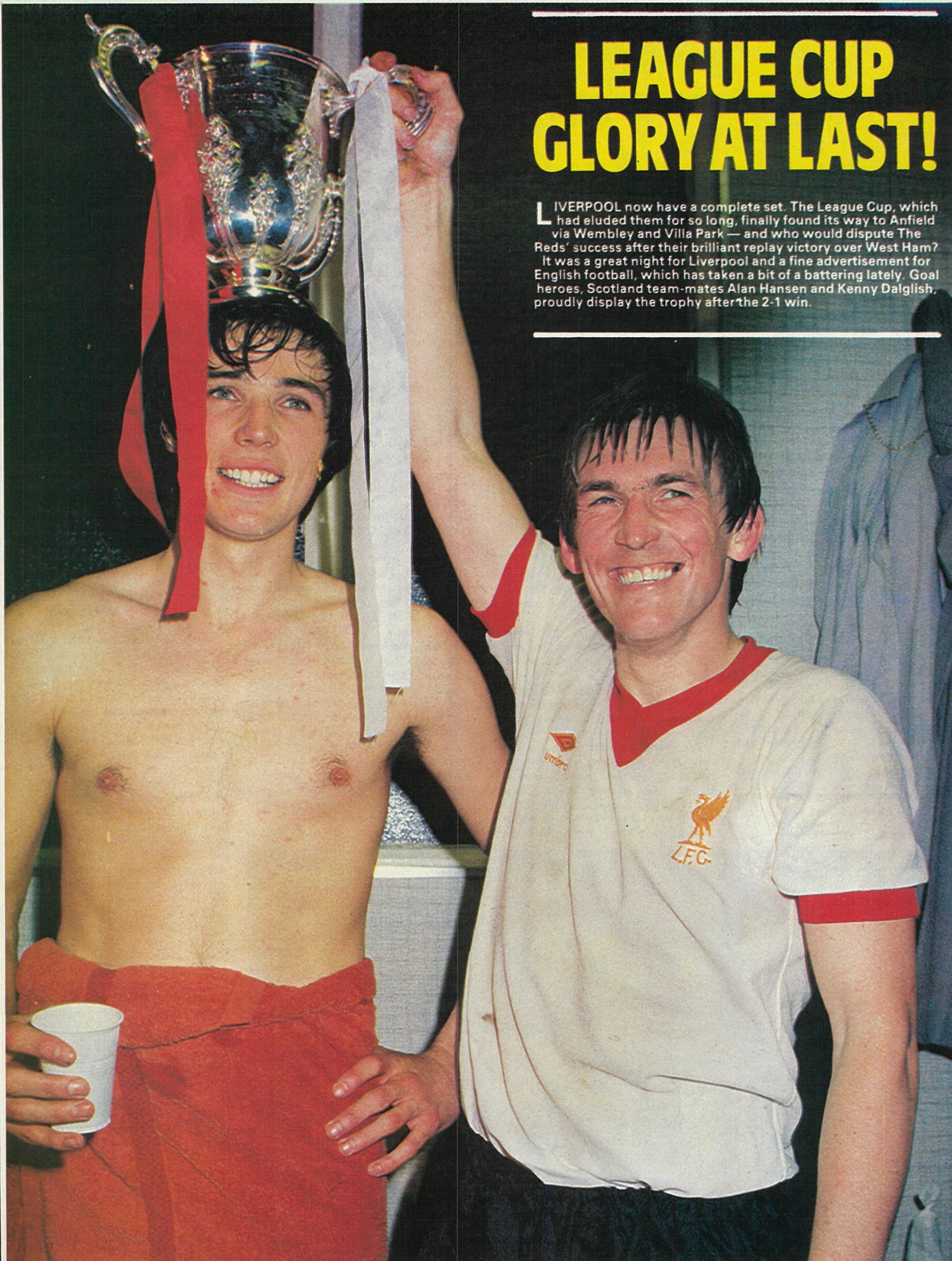
A case of puppy love for SHOOT columnist Andy Gray and his wife Vanessa. Their Old English Sheepdogs Ben and Dizzy presented them with a litter of seven pups.



SHOOT!

LEAGUE CUP GLORY AT LAST!

LIVERPOOL now have a complete set. The League Cup, which had eluded them for so long, finally found its way to Anfield via Wembley and Villa Park — and who would dispute The Reds' success after their brilliant replay victory over West Ham? It was a great night for Liverpool and a fine advertisement for English football, which has taken a bit of a battering lately. Goal heroes, Scotland team-mates Alan Hansen and Kenny Dalglish, proudly display the trophy after the 2-1 win.



SHOOT!

'MY COLLECTION IS COMPLETE'

AT last the League Cup hoodoo has been lifted from Liverpool. The only domestic trophy to have eluded the club's grasp now stands freshly-gleaming in our cabinet.

And a winner's medal completes my personal collection of home front honours. I must admit there have been times when I've been convinced we were never to win what is the least glamorous of our country's silverware, but at long last we've succeeded in carrying it off.

We also achieved another "football first", receiving medals instead of tankards, the former mementoes.

Not only was Wednesday, April 1st, a great night for Liverpool, it was a great night for football, as the replay unfolded into a thrilling display of skills.

Outshone

It was marvellous to triumph against a side such as West Ham in a match that outshone the Wembley Final.

Playing our best football of the season, we answered those critics who have been writing us off for the past three months.

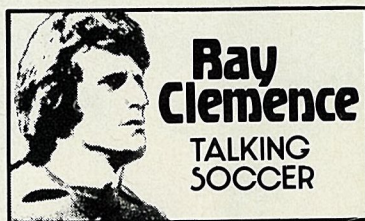
And perhaps we've succeeded in persuading armchair fans they're missing a lot just watching shortened, edited games on TV, no substitute for going along to grounds to watch the real thing.

We began in such style we looked

Kenny Dalglish turns to net Liverpool's crucial equalising goal in the League Cup Final replay at Villa Park.

like overwhelming The Hammers, yet it was they who scored first after winger Jimmy Neighbour broke down the right wing and crossed to Paul Goddard to power in a header so fiercely that although I got a hand to it I couldn't deflect it around the post.

Straight away we counter-attacked, but I must admit I did feel perhaps it wasn't our night when we had two shots rebound from their bar and Phil Parkes made a couple of superb saves.



I dreaded a repetition of our replay against Nottingham Forest in 1978 when we dominated play yet lost 1-0.

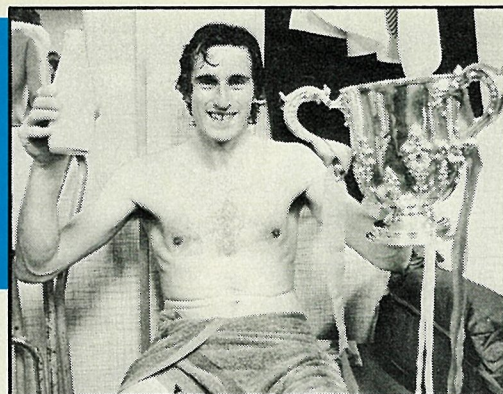
But then Kenny Dalglish wiped out my fears with one of the greatest goals he has ever scored in a Liverpool shirt.

He got on the end of a brilliantly-delivered Terry McDermott pass, floating it with deadly accuracy over Phil and into the net.

From the kick-off we again piled on the pressure, which was rewarded when Alan Hansen's header from a corner was deflected past Phil by his captain, Billy Bonds.

The West Ham camp later insisted that but for Billy's deflection, their

Ray gets to grips with the League Cup for the first time.



'keeper would have made a save, but as I was so far away I can't comment.

At half-time the only instruction Bob Paisley gave was that we should not allow The Hammers back into the game, as we had done at Wembley.

Hammers created a few chances at our end, with Billy Bonds crashing the ball just over the bar in the closing minutes, and David Cross coming close with a skewed shot which I just managed to get a hand to and deflect around the post.

Luckily perhaps, neither the referee — Clive Thomas, who officiated at his best — or a linesman, noticed my save and I got a goal-kick.

Soon afterwards the final whistle blew, and The Hammers players, although naturally disappointed, were quick to congratulate us. Their captain, Billy Bonds, summed up their feelings with the words: "Perhaps we could have taken it to extra-time, but it would have been a bit unjust for Liverpool."

Our win was due to team-work, yet I must single out three of our players for special mention: Alan Hansen, a tower of strength at the back and also a big creative influence in midfield; Sammy Lee, who never stopped running; and Ian Rush, playing only his second senior game, and showing excellent touch and composure.

I was in a such a daze of delight as

I went to collect my medal, the makeshift stairs and gangway seemed just like Wembley.

But what a night to remember: one that I have captured on my video at home. Perhaps the cassette will be joined by another next year when we retain the Cup and equal Forest's two-in-a-row record.

What a great thought to conjure with!

As winning the Cup gives us entry into next season's UEFA Cup, it's not necessary to finish in a qualifying position at the top of the League table, but there's one thing that'll ensure we keep battling for points: our pride.

Battles

This Saturday we'll be at Elland Road, scene of many epic battles between us and Leeds United when they were our greatest rivals in the 60's and early 70's.

When they visited Anfield earlier, they played defensively and held us to a goalless draw. Despite beating Ipswich 3-0 at Elland Road subsequently, I doubt if we'll see a different approach from Leeds.

Our Easter Monday game against Manchester United was brought forward, and instead we'll be getting ready to travel to Munich for the second-leg of the European Cup Semi-Final against Bayern.

I'm really looking forward to our first competitive game in the marvellous Olympic Stadium, surely the most beautiful in the World. We've already had one experience of playing there, in a pre-season friendly which we drew 1-1.

The Bayern players have told me there's tremendous interest, mainly because we're the opposition. Dutch aces Ajax only attracted a crowd of 40,000; Czechoslovakia's Banik Ostrava a mere 18,000 for the Quarter-Final tie; but a full house of 72,000 is expected for our game.

The pressure will be intense. But for Liverpool, with a good record against West German clubs, it's an experience we'll relish.

Lack of space has prevented me from talking about my future at Liverpool, as I promised last week. But I'll be concentrating on that subject in my next column.

Ray Clemence



ENGLAND manager Ron Greenwood argued recently that Football League clubs, particularly those in the First Division, need to adopt the sweeper system.

The line of thinking is fairly obvious. Most Continental clubs are now using a version of the *libero*, as they call the system, and in theory it would be an advantage if we could play the foreigners at their own game.

But are British teams ready to play the Beckenbauer way? And does it need a player of the same exceptional talents as the great German to make it succeed?

Malcolm Allison tried to make it work at Crystal Palace when he moved Gerry Francis, the former England captain, from midfield to the back four.

But it didn't produce the anticipated rise in the table for Palace, and has been abandoned since Francis' move to Q.P.R.

When Phil Thompson plays for England, he modifies his Liverpool role. The compromise gives the Liverpool skipper more freedom to

attack but doesn't let him have as much rein as Beckenbauer.

In the absence of the injured Thompson when England played Switzerland last November, Greenwood used West Bromwich's talented Bryan Robson in the role.

Robson was given more freedom than Thompson, but the effect of the tactic on England's performance was not startlingly successful.

Will the play ever catch on in Britain? Will Greenwood's expectations be realised?

Among those who has doubts is Robson's own manager Ron Atkinson, who has used the tactic sparingly.

He says: "The first time I tried it was with Bryan Robson in the role, against Brighton. The two central defenders marked their two front-runners and a midfield player picked up their deep-lying striker."

"I pushed another midfield man on to the right for the purpose of man-marking. That left Bryan free to utilise plenty of space."

"We've done that two or three times, but generally we keep him in midfield because he's a bit of a power-house and a good finisher. We're well covered with central defenders, who are all good players."

"I don't think the system will catch on in the First Division, because it is not suited to the style

of football in this country. Here, the ball is pumped in head high and it's important to have one or two big players to deal with that."

"But I don't think that not using a *libero* will affect how we do in Europe and the World Cups. We should utilise our best players in the style that suits them."

Francis was flattered to be rated the supreme player in the Palace side — Allison's definition is that the sweeper should be the best — but worried about the switch.

"I wasn't really happy about it," said Francis, "because it is not a position I had played in before. Malcolm's reasons for moving me were simply that he believed in using a system developed by the West Germans."

"But I was encouraged to go forward, because I was always supposed to be covered at the back. Nevertheless, I'm much happier in my midfield role at Q.P.R."

'Distributor'

Says Allison: "A sweeper needs coolness and ability to read the game. He should be a good distributor and able to play long balls out of defence."

"A conscientious sweeper will cover a lot of ground and be in the game more than the other defenders."

Sometimes, the tactics can go wrong. Says Atkinson: "Against Liverpool in September, I pulled Robson out of defence and put him into midfield because I didn't think they would score any more than the two they had already."

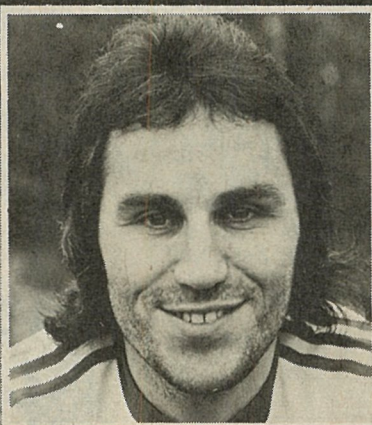
"But through exploiting space, they came forward and scored two more."

Who are the nearest players we have to the Continental *libero*? Apart from Thompson and Robson, Atkinson rates Colin Todd of Birmingham as best suited to the job.



Franz Beckenbauer (left), the model Continental sweeper. Bryan Robson (above right) can play in defence or midfield for WBA and England, but Gerry Francis (below right) was not happy with his role at Crystal Palace.

NO FUTURE FOR SWEEPERS



"Todd combines a bit of old-fashioned sweeping and a touch of the modern method. He creates space in the same way that Bobby Moore did, although Moore wasn't a Continental-type sweeper."

How does Greenwood himself see the role?

"Such a player must know how to read the game and must be an astute and sophisticated distributor."

"He plays both behind and in front of the central markers. This leads to defences having more depth. Ours are too flat!"

A perfect description of the old Beckenbauer.

But until our soccer coaches stop players banging high balls into the penalty-area, there is no future for an English Franz Beckenbauer.

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Tartan Talk

DANNY McGRAIN



WHAT's all the fuss about? That is my reaction to those who slammed Scotland after the 1-1 World Cup draw with Northern Ireland at Hampden.

No one is more critical of Scotland than the Scots, and while I salute that magnificent crowd of 78,000, I certainly cannot agree with some of the after match comments I heard.

Important

The first mistake is that so many people underrate the Irish. After all, they are British Champions, and they have played more or less the same line-up for the last two years — so important in world football.

Second, we were very unlucky. In the first-half alone we hit the post, and had one cleared off the line and John Wark slid a good chance across the goal with no one there.

And third, after four World Cup games — half our qualifying quota — we are top of the section.

Of course there are important games still to go, with the next one looking as vital as any. That is against Israel at Hampden (April 28).

We know all about them now, of course, because of our 1-0 win in Tel Aviv earlier in the year, and we

Alex McLeish clears from Billy Hamilton, who headed the Irish ahead in the 1-1 draw.



Andy Gray goes close for Scotland with this flying header against Northern Ireland.

a spin-off for the domestic programme.

I hope there is a big crowd at the Israel match and I think that might just happen with a summer night and hopefully a lot of goals in prospect. Remember, though, that I have already warned that the Israelis will be no pushover.

But I will finish my international chat the way I started. What is all the fuss about . . . it could have been a lot worse against Ireland.

On the domestic front I have to admit now that it does look very much as if I will have a Championship medal in my grasp by the end of this month. Indeed, by the time you read this, it is possible that the title will already have been won.

It has been a good season both for the club and myself with me winning my regular Scotland place back and Celtic winning their regu-

'Get off our backs'

realise they will be no walkover.

It is vital that we beat Israel because I'm not giving anything away if I tell you that none of our players fancy a showdown decider against the Irish in Belfast, which happens to be our last game.

What some fans have to realise is that the days of Northern Ireland being football's fall guys have long gone. Billy Bingham has put together a highly talented squad of players willing to work hard to get

to the top.

Having said all of that, I dearly wish that we had won at Hampden.

A victory in front of all those people would have given the Premier Division a huge boost, because it is a well known fact that a successful international side always means

lar Championship flag back!

And that is to say nothing of several other Parkhead players who have made the season their own. Men like Charlie Nicholas of course.

It seems no time at all since I was telling you in Tartan Talk of a young lad who was doing well on our close season tour of West Germany last summer.

And what about one of the unsung heroes, George McCluskey, who managed five goals in four substitute appearances in March?

And then there is the little matter of the Scottish Cup . . . but more of that in my next Tartan Talk.

See you in two weeks.

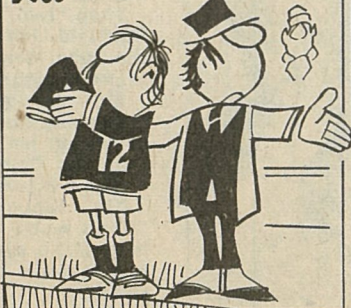
Danny McGrain

**TARTAN TALK
FROM RANGERS'
DEREK JOHNSTONE
NEXT WEEK**



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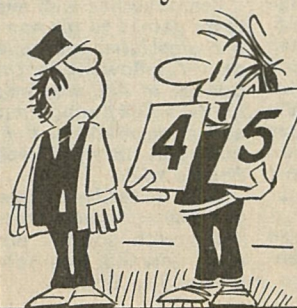
WE'RE IN TROUBLE HERE, BOSS



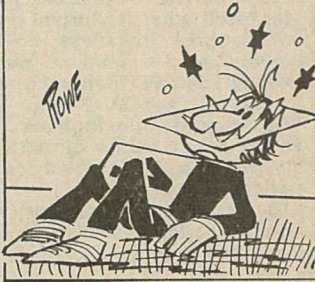
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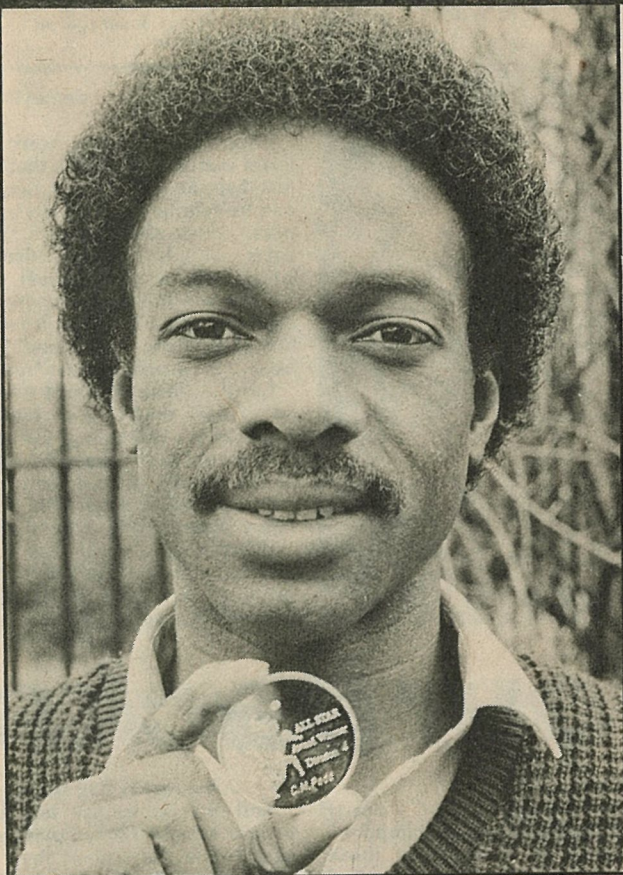


WILL FOUR AND FIVE DO INSTEAD?



WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH HIM . . . CAN'T HE ADD UP OR SOMETHING?





Podd can't get away from soccer

CEC Podd, Bradford City's long-serving West Indies-born full-back, has only two medals to show for his ten years in the game.

The first he acquired in 1976-77 — his reward for helping the Pardners to win promotion to the Third Division.

Then a few weeks ago at a glittering affair in London, he was handed the Professional Footballers' Association medal as the Fourth Division's best right-back (pictured above).

But the 28-year-old Podd has no complaints.

'Reward'

"I know it sounds corny, but getting paid to play soccer has been sufficient reward for me," he said.

"I'm football crazy — always have been. Even when I'm not involved professionally I'm usually not far away from the game.

"In fact one of my hobbies is coaching the lads at the local youth club."

It is difficult to imagine the pressures the 18-year-old youngster faced when he turned pro ten years ago. Nowadays coloured players are a familiar part of League football. Men such as Viv Anderson, Cyrille Regis, Vince Hilaire, Laurie Cunningham, Justin Fashanu and Luther Blissett have all made a big impact on our national game.

But it was a different story when young Cec Podd broke into Bradford City's first team a decade ago.

It was certainly a strange world for the shy newcomer who came to England as a nine-year-old.

"I regarded it as a challenge," says Podd. "Here was a chance to prove I was as good as any home-grown player. I'd qualified as a commercial artist, so I had something to fall back on if I didn't make the grade.

"This knowledge gave me confidence. And the fact that I was mad on the game also made life easier.

"But the first season I used to wonder what was wrong when the crowd didn't yell obscenities or some opponent didn't bother to make references to my background.

"John Coddington, our coach at the time, was a great help to me in those trying times. He used to take me on one side and stress that if I suffered abuse it meant I was doing a good job for the side. His psychology worked and eventually I became part of the Fourth Division scenery. It's been marvellous since."

Cec, who has well over 400 first team games to his name, became a professional footballer by accident. A fellow student at Bradford College of Art, was impressed by his pal's skill during friendly games and persuaded the then Bradford manager Jimmy Wheeler to give Podd a trial.

Now he is City's longest-serving pro, having served under five managers with another boss not far away now that George Mulhall has returned to Bolton.

HUDDERSFIELD Town striker Steve Kindon is good at avoiding tackles. It is a knack he learned at school, where he played rugby because they hadn't a soccer team.

"I didn't take part in an organised soccer match until I left grammar school at the age of 16," he recalls.

"And by that time, I was already set in some habits — such as nipping out of the way of defenders and learning to take the hard knocks, which are part and parcel of rugby.

"I suppose that sort of background also explains why I seldom head the ball, even though you'd expect a striker of my build (6ft, 13st) to do a lot of that."

Despite his late introduction to soccer, the likeable Lancastrian quickly made his mark.

Idol

Within 18 months he had made his First Division debut with Burnley and the tall, leggy 17-year-old winger soon became a Turf Moor idol.

After just over 100 League games — and 28 goals — he was snapped up by Wolves, where he spent a lot of time in the shadow of Northern Ireland goal-poacher Derek Dougan.

"I had some good times at Molineux including being top scorer the season we won promotion to the First Division. But I was conscious of being third-choice striker to the Doog and John Richards," says Kindon.

Eventually, four years ago, the somewhat disillusioned Kindon

moved back to Burnley, where he stayed until Fourth Division title hopefuls Huddersfield paid £80,000 for him a year last December.

The 30-year-old Kindon, who this season looks like collecting his third promotion medal, joined Town "because they looked like going places under a manager I played with for a time at Turf Moor, Mick Buxton."

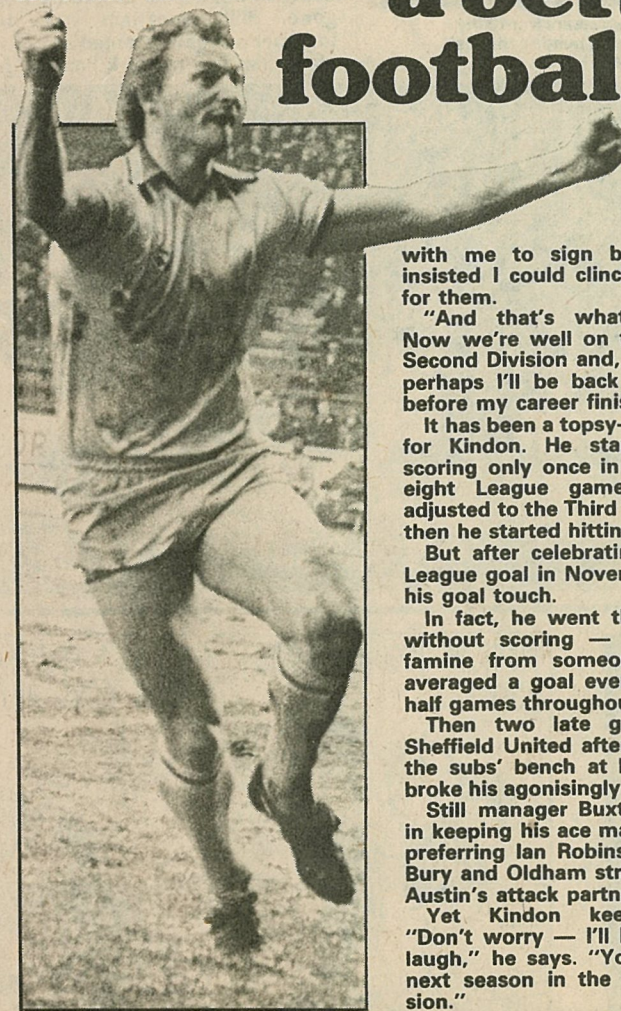
But he reveals that he almost decided against going to Leeds Road, explaining: "After talks in Huddersfield it was agreed that we would go back to Burnley — where I still live — to complete the formalities.

"But as I was driving home I suddenly had second thoughts, and when the Town officials caught up with me I told them I'd changed my mind about joining them.

"They persuaded me to watch the team play later in the week and to please them I said 'Yes.' But I'd no intention of signing.

"As luck would have it, three Huddersfield supporters recognised me at the match and pleaded

Rugby made Kindon a better footballer



with me to sign because they insisted I could clinch promotion for them.

"And that's what happened. Now we're well on track for the Second Division and, who knows, perhaps I'll be back in the First before my career finishes."

It has been a topsy-turvy season for Kindon. He started quietly, scoring only once in the opening eight League games as Town adjusted to the Third Division, and then he started hitting the target.

But after celebrating his 100th League goal in November, he lost his goal touch.

In fact, he went three months without scoring — a surprising famine from someone who has averaged a goal every three-and-half games throughout his career.

Then two late goals against Sheffield United after an hour on the subs' bench at Bramall Lane broke his agonisingly barren spell.

Still manager Buxton persisted in keeping his ace marksman sub, preferring Ian Robins, the former Bury and Oldham striker, as Terry Austin's attack partner.

Yet Kindon keeps smiling. "Don't worry — I'll have the last laugh," he says. "You watch me next season in the Second Division."

'DISAPPOINTING SEASON FOR SAINTS'

says Chris Nicholl

THE reaction of Chris Nicholl to this season can be summed up in one word — disappointing.

"The Cup defeat by Everton ended our Wembley hopes," says the big Southampton centre-half. "And with Ipswich and Villa fighting it out for the League title, the best we can now aim at is a place in the top four."

"We started the season in good style, but a bad run before Christmas knocked us back. Overall, we just weren't consistent enough — we would string a few winning results together, then slip up again."

At the beginning of the season there was speculation about how newly-signed Kevin Keegan would perform in the Southampton jersey following his successful playing stint in Germany.

In 1979-80, Saints had failed to score in half their away games, finally finishing eighth in the table, and their ambitious manager, Lawrie McMenemy, was looking for an improvement.

And Nicholl says: "At the beginning, Kevin operated in midfield for us, and what had to be sorted out was whether this was his best

position.

"But since he moved up front to score goals I think we have improved in attack, where he has linked up well with Mike Channon."

Channon, along with Nicholl, has been an ever-present in the squad up to mid-March, and Chris is pleased that he has successfully managed to keep clear of knocks so far.

"I hate missing matches through injury, and if I do get a knock, it's more likely to be on the face than anywhere else — a broken nose or perhaps a couple of teeth knocked out."

"But strikers, too, take their share of stick, especially centre-forwards, who are usually in the thick of the goalmouth action."

"These days, a number of players are suffering from ligament or cartilage trouble, and this type of injury can happen to a player in any position."

Defeat by Everton in the F.A. Cup ended Southampton's Wembley dreams this season.

"Perhaps one reason is the number of matches played throughout a season."

Although Southampton have failed to capture a major trophy once again, Nicholl can derive personal satisfaction from the fact that he is a first team regular at The Dell and also a member of the Northern Ireland squad.

And he is convinced that the modern game is not lacking in top-class forwards who can run at defences.

'Afraid'

He says: "Paul Mariner, Cyrille Regis, Joe Jordan, Peter Withe and Justin Fashanu are just some of the strikers who aren't afraid to have a go on their own."

"Mariner and Withe have played their parts in helping their team to leading places in the League table through their ability to put pressure on opposing back-fours."

"Paul really spearheads the Ipswich attack — he is brave, can give a knock and take one, and is always buzzing around creating problems for defenders."

On the subject of which is the better team, Villa or Ipswich, Nicholl prefers to reserve judgment — he reckons they are so equally matched that it isn't easy to give a decision. But he has no reservations about his own ambitions for the future.

Says Chris: "I want Southampton to compete regularly in Europe, and feel sure we've enough talent in the side to do so."

"When we are on form, we are as good as any team in the country. And if we do have a bad spell, we should emulate Liverpool by fighting our way back into form."

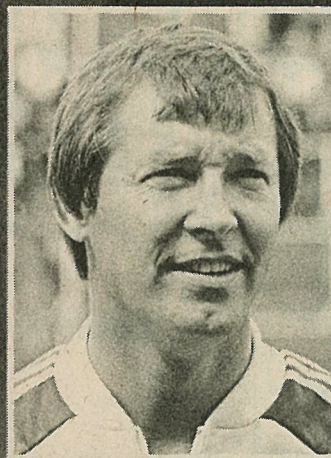
"I would like to see Northern Ireland achieve their aims and qualify for the World Cup — and I'd like to be part of the team."



Aberdeen boss Alex Ferguson (inset) is in no hurry to part company with his talented centre-back Alex McLeish (No. 5).

NO SALE AT ABERDEEN

hopes firebrand Fergie



"We must look to the new season," says Fergie. "Europe is vital to this club and we will have to make sure of a place in this arena."

"Possibly I expected too much of my younger players this time around, but the experience will not have done them any harm."

"John Hewitt, Neil Simson, Ian Angus, Dougie Bell, Andy Watson and the others will all be better players after this season."

"There is still an abundance of talent here. No-one should count us out now... that would be foolish."

The unfortunate avalanche of injuries left Aberdeen short in vital areas in the team, but Fergie has been in no rush to part with huge sums of money to patch up his team. The Archibald cash is largely untouched, although he did part with £80,000 to Luton for striker Andy Harrow.

He has already made it clear he will not be held to ransom and he will not be involved in an auction for a player. He made what he considered a fair bid for Airdrie goalgetter Sandy Clark — around £150,000 — earlier this year and was told to add to it.

Fergie refused, saying: "I'm not paying over my evaluation of a player. Some of the prices being asked these days are ridiculous."

Aberdeen, then, are disappointed at the way things have gone for them this season... a season that promised so much back in August, but has failed to yield a rich harvest.

Alex Ferguson and his players are already gearing themselves for next season. Stand by once more for the invasion of the Red Army!

ABERDEEN manager Alex Ferguson has a chair in his office at Pittodrie which he called his 'Steve Archibald Seat'.

That's where Archibald used to sit and talk things over with The Dons boss before the international striker moved across the border for almost £1 million to Spurs.

Fergie did everything in his power to keep Archibald at Aberdeen and he is just as determined to hold to any other player he thinks can do a good job for his first team.

"Transfer talks only serve to unsettle a player," says Fergie. "I should know... I played for enough clubs myself, didn't I?"

The Dons supremo, once a feared striker, started his career with Queen's Park before moving on to St Johnstone, Dunfermline, Rangers, Falkirk and Ayr United. As a manager he has been in charge of East Stirling and St Mirren before settling at Aberdeen.

Adamant

Now, after the relative failure of this season, Fergie is looking to the future — and he is adamant that club will resist any offers they might get for Alex McLeish, Gordon Strachan or anyone else he feels should stay at Pittodrie.

Last season, firebrand Fergie admitted: "It was great to win the Premier Division Championship, but as we won't retain it the pressure will be on us all the way to do better next season. Let's see how we cope. I want us to do things in style. I think that is very important."

The decline of Aberdeen by their own high standards can be put down to many reasons. Archibald's goal power has been sorely missed although, at one stage, Mark McGhee seemed to have the answer.

Midfielder John McMaster's season was cruelly cut short with a leg injury. Stewart Kennedy, the international right-back, was the next to drop out of the team through injury and, of course, midfield mastermind Gordon

Strachan was missed during his lengthy, enforced absence.

Aberdeen, though, battled on and still managed to take six out of a possible eight points from Celtic in the League, and that is no mean feat considering the way the Parkhead men have been performing in recent months.

Mark McGhee promised to replace the goalscoring talents of Steve Archibald for Aberdeen earlier this season.



A recent welcome addition to famous ex-Scottish players who are now seeking success in the managerial stakes is Harry Hood, who recently took over as boss of Scottish Second Division outfit Albion Rovers.

Three years ago Hood finished a highly successful career with Celtic, a career which saw the talented midfielder collect a European Cup runners-up medal, six League Championship medals and numerous League, Scottish and Glasgow Cup honours as well as an appearance for Scotland at League and international level.

However, since Hood's last game for the Parkhead giants in April, 1978 nothing has been heard of the tenacious forward who

coaching job or a managerial position with a lesser-known club would benefit me, so I vanished from the scene completely."

So what has prompted Hood to step back into the limelight and especially into the cut-throat world of management?

"My position at Cliftonhill is purely part-time so if I'm not successful then nothing lost nothing gained."

Hood will still be able to take care of his own affairs. But his predecessor, former Crystal Palace and Airdrie star Sam Goodwin, resigned due to the pressure of management coupled with business ventures.

So things may not run as smoothly as Hood would like.

Before Goodwin arrived Albion were Second Division no-hopers, but the "Wee Rovers" as they are quaintly nicknamed, have since become a good outside bet for promotion as each season has seen an improvement in League form.

At least the ex-Celtic man has

WHY HOOD VANISHED

seemed set to channel his enthusiasm on the field into another area of the game which gave him so many awards and fond memories.

"After I stopped playing I decided to pursue my business interests despite many lucrative offers from home and abroad," he told us.

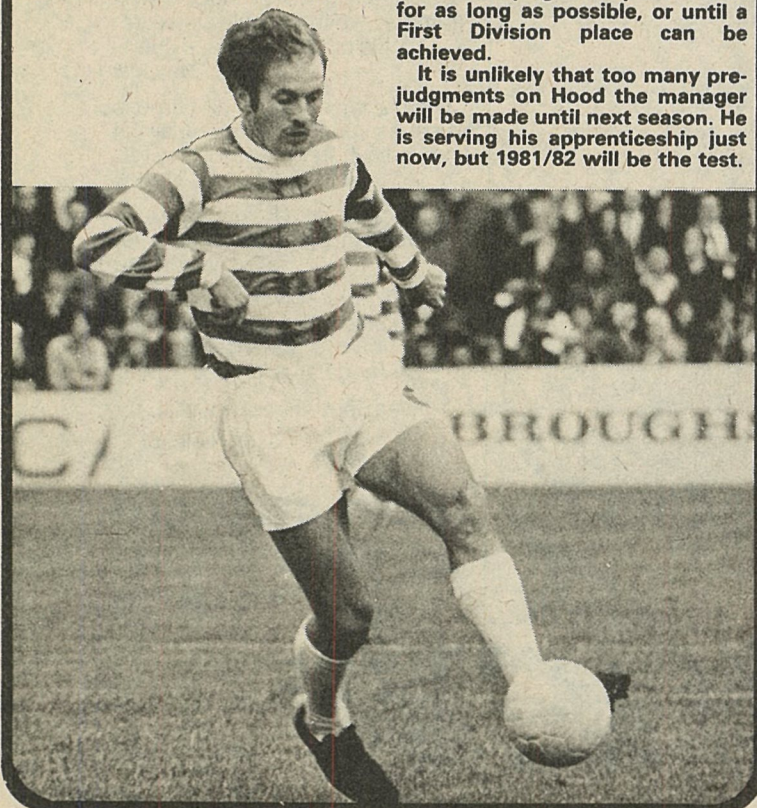
"During my final months at Celtic I had to look at everything from all angles to decide what would be best for me after I stopped playing. At the time I did not reckon a

plenty of talent on his side. Goal-keeper John Balavage has been a target for many scouts south of the border and for some months last year speculation was high that a move to mighty Liverpool was on the cards.

However, despite the appearance of First Division scouts at Albion home matches this term, no bids have been made as yet.

Midfield men Ray Franchetti and Charlie Egan are two more Albion favourites who could well be coming South to display their talents before too long, but Hood will no doubt be trying to keep these men for as long as possible, or until a First Division place can be achieved.

It is unlikely that too many pre-judgments on Hood the manager will be made until next season. He is serving his apprenticeship just now, but 1981/82 will be the test.



A transfer might get Gibson going



Willie Gibson (above, dark shirt) tussles with the Morton defence.

WILLIE GIBSON should have realised that football can sometimes be an extremely cruel game when he once scored a spectacular hat-trick against Celtic at Tynecastle... and still ended up on the losing side!

The Hearts front man says: "I'll never forget that day. Imagine scoring three goals and not getting a win bonus. I remember Kenny Dalglish playing very well for Celtic that afternoon.

"It was one of those games that starts off like a rocket and gets even faster. The fans weren't grumbling about the lack of entertainment after that, I can assure you."

Gibson, though, has no intention of living on his memories. He has scored almost 200 goals for the Tynecastle first team and only this season Partick Thistle and Airdrie wanted to buy him.

"Challenge"

"Possibly it's time I moved on," he says. "Maybe I've been at Tynecastle too long. A fresh challenge might work wonders.

"I haven't exactly set the heather on fire this season with my goalscoring performances. In fact, I had netted only four by the time the middle of March arrived."

Fifer Gibson is an honest professional, giving 100 per cent effort in every game, but obviously his form has suffered in the general decline of once proud Hearts.

"It's so sad to see the club going through these troubled times," he says. "I'm not deserting a sinking ship when I say it is possibly a good thing for me to move on at this stage of my career.

"I believe Hearts will be back. They have some good young players and once they are allowed to mature Hearts could be a force to

be reckoned with.

"I'll give my everything for this club. They belong at the top and that's where I would like to see them."

The slender, super-fast Gibson has created havoc in the First Division when Hearts have played there in recent years. It certainly wouldn't break the hearts of defenders in this Division if either Partick Thistle or Airdrie should try their luck again for the Tynecastle striker and keep him in the Premier Division next season!

Hearts have been up and down with boring regularity like a runaway rollercoaster. Every time they have been relegated they have bounced back in one season.

But they always came back up with a side that has not been equipped for the rigours of the Top Ten. They are clearly too good for the First Division, but are in the unfortunate position of not being good enough for the Premier Division.

Gibson has been asked to plough a lone furrow up front, chasing after a weird variety of hectic clearances from his defence in an effort to turn the pressure on the opponents.

No striker can thrive in those circumstances and the meagre total of four goals underlines that even the lively Gibson is no exception.

Whether Gibson stays with Hearts or moves on, he is the type of wholeblooded professional who deserves a smile rather than a snarl from Lady Luck.

He believes firmly in entertainment and sportsmanship and soccer can do with a lot more of his kind.

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POWER

STOKE had to find a new goalscorer after letting leading striker Garth Crooks join Spurs at the start of the season.

Fortunately, they didn't have to look too far. Manager Alan Durban decided to gamble on young reserve Lee Chapman. And in his first full season of League football, the 21-year-old has already nabbed two hat-tricks.

Norwich and Leeds were his victims and on both occasions, he was presented with the match ball in honour of his feat.

Says Chapman: "The Leeds game was sponsored by a brewery and they also gave me a video-recording of the game. So I can relive that day any time I like."

The proudest person at the Victoria Ground after his hat-trick performances was Mrs Jill Chapman — Lee's mum. She's a secretary at Stoke City.

Father Roy was manager of Stockport for a while and was also in charge of non-League giants Stafford Rangers. Now he coaches a side in the Midland Combination.

Says Lee: "I suppose you could say that football is in the family blood. But my dad never pushed me into it. I remember watching

him play for Lincoln when I was about six but I didn't even learn to play the game from him. I was taught by a friend."

Lee started watching Stoke as a teenager, so it was only natural that he should turn to them when he began thinking of a professional career.

He forced his way into the First Division side towards the end of last season, scoring three goals in 14 appearances.

Then, at the start of this season, he found himself as the club's main striker. "Having lost a recognised goalscorer like Garth, the team were obviously looking for someone to take over his role and I was it."

"I suppose that put more pressure on me to get goals, but I never really thought of it like that. I'd expected to be in the side after getting in the previous season and I just went out to do my best."

For a young player trying to make his mark in the First Division, it couldn't have been a more precarious start. The side made an awful beginning to their League programme and quickly found themselves among the favourites for relegation.

"It was a dodgy start and things looked a bit grim for us for a while. But relegation battles weren't new to me because I made my debut in a game like that last season."

"We played Bristol City in a real four-pointer match and if we'd lost, we might well have gone down."

Playing in the First Division, says Chapman, has made him a better player. "I've definitely improved. I think you have to if you are going to play regularly at the top."

"You have to be tougher physically and more aware of what's going on around you. You also have to learn to take your chances,

because at this level you don't often get a second go."

"I probably missed one or two last season that I should have had. But I like to think that I've shown gradual improvement."

Stoke, of course, came in for a lot of criticism over manager Durban's defensive policies but Chapman says: "We only played defensively for a while to get us over a bad spell. We have come out and shown what we can do since then."

'Ambitious'

Next season, he hopes Stoke can forget the relegation worries of the past two years and start making an impression on the First Division. "I'm an ambitious person and I want to win a few top honours, nationally and internationally."

Chapman has already done better than even he expected this season. "I set myself a target of 15 goals but I reached that by March so I've had to push it up to 20."

Those first 15 goals were more than Crooks scored in the First Division for the club last season. They guaranteed Stoke's safety — and saved them a fortune in the transfer market.

Chapman

has saved Stoke a fortune

Chapman (stripes) gets in before England defender Terry Butcher to head home for Stoke in the 2-2 draw with Ipswich.



WHATEVER Ipswich Town achieve this season will be a fitting tribute to their manager, the late Bobby Robson.

At least that's how he was described at a recent sportswriters' lunch in London, where he was guest of honour. Club business had delayed him an hour.

"I'm really very sorry," he apologised. "If one of my players is late for training he's fined."

That over with and the roast beef eaten, Robson spoke for over an hour with the style that has been the hallmark of his team this season.

He answered every question honestly and the only one that had him flustered was whether he

would like the England job. "Is this on the record?" he asked. Yes, it was.

The Ipswich manager was silent for a full 30 seconds, deep in thought. You can read what you like into such a delay, but he eventually replied: "I'll bide my time. Life is so full at the moment I haven't had a chance to think about it. Anyway, I don't like to talk about a job that's already occupied."

"I'm aware that it's the most prestigious post in the country. It must go to a very experienced man. A young England manager would be wrong. I witnessed this during the European Championship. Dealing with experienced players you need to

be experienced yourself otherwise they'd murder you."

As coach of the England 'B' team, Robson could be said to be serving a sort of apprenticeship for the Big Job; certainly when Don Revie took the money and ran Robson was interviewed by the F.A.

He has two more years of his Ipswich contract left and, not surprisingly, is very happy.

"I wanted to leave a couple of years ago for Barcelona. It would have been a challenge. A new club, a new country, a new language — two years out there would have set me up for life financially and, who knows, maybe I'd have come back an even better manager?"

"It would be very hard to leave

the club now. I'm reaping the rewards for a lot of hard work — you only get out of the game what you put in. I'd leave for another challenge. Perhaps to take over a club and do 'another Ipswich'. There are plenty of such challenges around.

"I'd need a ten-year contract, though, which Ipswich gave me. You can't do a job in two minutes. I was sacked by Fulham after seven months and three of those were the close-season. Look where they are now."

One senses Robson is still bitter about that experience — and he had another surprise when Chris Woods of Q.P.R. went on loan to Norwich instead of Ipswich.

"That taught me something.

Bobby Robson reveals IPSWICH'S SECRET

There we were, top of the League, if something had happened to Paul Cooper, Chris could have picked up an F.A. Cup winners' medal. He chose Norwich. Terry Venables said the player was mad. Terry said: 'Can I come and play for you?'"

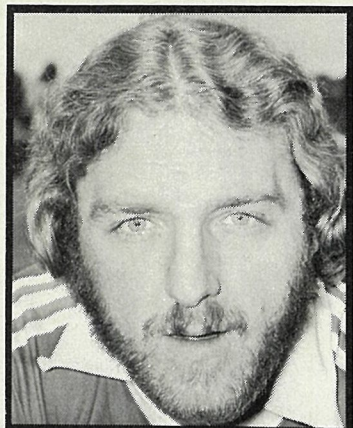
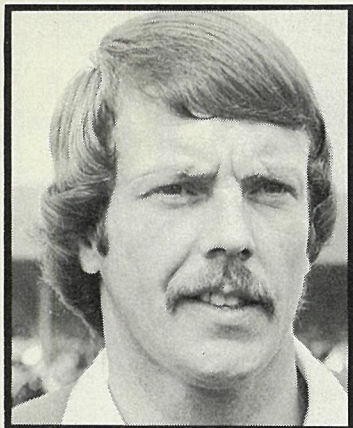
Through the years Robson has had far more successes than failures in attracting players, against the odds, for despite their current status a few years ago Ipswich was still something of a soccer backwater.

"I remember speaking to Tommy Docherty when he was manager of Manchester United. He told me they make £90,000 a year profit from their programmes. This means he could pay 90 scouts £20 a week to keep their eyes open and the programme sales would pay for all the new young talent."

"United and West Ham both have full-time scouts in Ipswich. They're there, but they keep going to the wrong matches."

"We're looking at 11-year-olds these days. By the time kids are 14 everyone's on to them. It's all about judgment. John Wark came here aged 15½ and I offered him an apprenticeship. 'I've promised to see Manchester City,' he said, so I told him if he'd promised then he must go along. Two weeks later John phoned me and said: 'It's Mr Wark.' I thought it was his father and wondered what to expect. City hadn't taken him on so he signed for us. Had they offered him terms





Allan Hunter (far left) and Kevin Beattie (left) were once considered irreplaceable in the centre of the Ipswich defence. But the emergence of young Russell Osman (below, left) has taken place quicker than even Robson imagined. John Wark (below) only signed for Ipswich because he was not accepted at Manchester City as a schoolboy.

'How about it, then?' I don't blame them. They're looking after their own interests.

"The League have told us we have to play Southampton two days after the Cup Final. The Championship could depend on that game.

he would have signed for them, not us, because they were the big glamour club then. Not now, though.

"What I can offer youngsters is opportunity. I can guarantee them good training and good coaching — then if they're good enough they'll get their chance.

"When I was 15 I worshipped Newcastle. I went there every Saturday with my father and would have given anything to play for them. When I came to sign as a professional I was old enough to realise that Newcastle preferred to buy players and it would have been wrong for me to join them.

"We always give youngsters an opportunity. We've been a school of excellence for young players.

"I threw John Wark in at the deep end against Leeds when he was 17. Look where he is now.

"I could never imagine our side without Allan Hunter and Kevin Beattie at the centre of defence. Maybe one would be out, but not both. Now Russell Osman and Terry Butcher have been together

for almost three years — and how they've progressed. Terry nearly joined Norwich. Neither were outstanding schoolboys, but it was a question of judgment."

Ipswich are at the top of the League, and thanks to the efforts of Robson and his staff they must be top of the public relations League, too. Robson is always available to help the demands of the media, while the Ipswich players spend a lot of time meeting the local community.

They would be popular Champions and Robson believes the incredible treble is a possibility for any team. But . . .

"If you have the quality to win the double you can do the treble. What can ruin your chances is the system under which we play.

"I wanted to put back our replay against Forest by 24 hours, but Cloughie said to me: 'Hey, we want to play you on the beach at noon tomorrow.' We're trying to slot in the game against Aston Villa and Ron Saunders keeps coming on the phone and saying:

"Ideally, the First Division should be reduced by four clubs. Yet clubs need every penny and this would mean less revenue. And the only ones with fixture problems are the ones at the top.

"If we did reduce the First Division we would need to spend the extra time available for training and coaching. I think we'd produce better internationals if we had more time to practise instead of virtually only playing matches."

Robson would have talked for hours and the writers would have been happy to listen.

One more question: what do you think of three points for a win?

"We've had a similar system at Ipswich for ages. Three bottles of champagne for a win and one for a defeat."

The Ipswich chairman Patrick Cobbold and his directors are famous for their generosity in every respect.

"I couldn't have a better set of directors. We hardly have any board meetings. Some clubs have one a week. We have two a year when things are going badly. Or rather, when they're going well. When they're going badly we don't have any!"



The STEVE ARCHIBALD STORY Part one

The m



The Tottenham superstar (left), taking on Arthur Albiston of Manchester United.



With former Aberdeen team-mates Willie Miller and Alex McLeish at a Scotland get together (above).

HIS goals have helped Spurs into the F.A. Cup Semi-Finals for the first time since 1967; his ferocious striking powers have pushed Scotland to the brink of next year's World Cup Finals.

mechanic who played in goal for Clyde

Steve Archibald during his days with Clyde (right) and in action for Scotland against Israel in Tel Aviv recently (below).



STEVE Archibald, the darling of White Hart Lane following a record-breaking £800,000 transfer from Scottish Champions Aberdeen, is already one of British soccer's hottest properties.

The next few seasons could catapult him into the superstar bracket, yet just seven years ago Steve Archibald was an apprentice motor mechanic with little more than dreams of becoming a professional footballer.

After leaving school in Rutherglen on the outskirts of Glasgow, the young lad who had convinced himself that he was good enough to make the grade suddenly found himself without a job.

The apprenticeship was taken only at the insistence of his father, Alex, a Merchant seaman. His future looked far from bright.

"I was never really worried, though," Steve revealed. "I was sure I would be signed on soon,

because I had never had any doubts in my own ability as a footballer."

And sure enough, Steve was spotted by Scottish First Division Clyde within months of his leaving school at the age of 17.

"I was playing for a local team called Fernhill Athletic. One of the guys who helped to run that team — Gordon Wallace — was also a scout for Clyde, and he recommended me to Shawfield boss Stan Anderson.

"I know that Clyde may not be the world's most glamorous side, but that didn't bother me. I just wanted to be a footballer and they had given me my chance."

Suitably impressed, Anderson signed young Archibald on as a part-time pro. During the day he continued his apprenticeship at the garage, and on three nights a week he trained with the other Clyde players.

But a row with Anderson nearly wrecked young Steve's career before it had even got off the ground.

"He wanted me to play junior football in order to toughen me up," Steve recalls. "My grandfather, Alex Hutchison, advised me against it, and so I refused."

It was a potentially disastrous confrontation but one which, fortunately, was happily resolved.

Archibald continued to train



hard and was creating a suitable impression with the Clyde manager.

Eventually it was clear that the 18-year-old utility player was ready for his first-team debut. It came in a challenge match against St Mirren at Shawfield.

"Having trained for so long with all the players, I wasn't really nervous," Steve recalls.

"I was in midfield, and we won 4-2."

He was a regular from then on, but could never settle into one position at Clyde.

"I think I played in just about every position for them. I even went in goal at Hampden Park!

"We were away to Queen's Park when our 'keeper was injured midway through the first-half.

"I had to take over, and the first shot I had whistled past me into the net! I don't know how, but we went on to win 5-3 that day.

"Mind you, it was a pretty frightening experience. I've told Glenn Hoddle he can keep the stand-in role at Spurs," he laughed.

In 65 League games for Clyde, Steve scored seven times. But the turning point in his rapid rise to football fame came when Billy McNeill, Celtic's European Cup-winning captain, was appointed Anderson's successor at Clyde.

"That was one of the biggest things to have happened to the club for years," Steve remembers.

"I was impressed with Billy McNeill, but when he moved on to

Aberdeen just three months later I figured that was the last I'd see of him."

Yet Steve had clearly made an impression on McNeill, for in January, 1978, he was signed by Aberdeen for £20,000.

"I had married Maureen just a couple of months before the offer, but we both knew I couldn't turn Aberdeen down.

"For the first time I'd be a full professional footballer, and the chance of playing in the Premier Division was the realisation of all my ambitions at the time."

So Steve duly signed for The Dons. "It was easy to settle there, because Billy McNeill's influence was already beginning to show.

"I was 21 at the time, and there were other young players coming into the side — Gordon Strachan, Willie Miller and Alex McLeish among them.

"My first game was in a 1-1 draw away to Ayr United, but I realised the full potential of my new side when we won 3-0 away to Rangers a couple of weeks later.

"There were 40,000 fans at Ibrox that day — easily the biggest crowd I had played before.

"I scored the third goal against the team who were on their way to the Championship.

"The knowledge that we were on the threshold of something really big excited me..."

NEXT WEEK: A champion at Aberdeen and a Scotland call-up.



Displaying the Archibald family crest with wife Maureen

QUINI'S BACK — but how safe are the

WHILE Spain were hanging on to their 2-1 lead during their friendly against England at Wembley, Spanish police burst into a disused workshop on the riverside in the outskirts of Zaragoza.

They'd previously had the electricity cut off, and in the darkness they rapidly overpowered a young man armed with a shotgun and a pistol.

Down in the damp, musty cellar they found a dishevelled man with 25 days growth of beard, cowering behind a foam mattress.

"I saw a blonde man with a moustache burst into the room," he explained later, "and I was convinced they'd come to kill me. When he said he was a policeman, I just broke down and burst into tears."

The nightmare was finally over for Enrique Castro — better known as Barcelona striker Quini.

"They took me just as I was leaving the flat to go and meet my wife and the kids at the airport. They tied me up, put a hood over

my head, taped it to my neck and bundled me into a trunk in the back of a van. They told me to prepare myself for a long drive.

"I was in that cellar for 25 days. I had no idea where I was. I had no newspapers. No radio. No television. No toilet. And only sandwiches to eat.

"Finally I just couldn't stand the damp, the dark and the loneliness, and I begged them to bring me a television. They gave me an old one, and it was all I could do to make out the picture. But it was company. It stopped me from going mad."

When Quini arrived under police escort in Barcelona, he found that thousands of people stayed up till 3 a.m. to cheer madly as he was reunited with his wife at police headquarters.

In a deep state of shock, he somehow coped with the barrage of questions from reporters. And six hours later he was back in training at the Nou Camp stadium.

Tragic

But as life returns to normal for Quini, and as the inquests and legal proceedings get under way, one wonders what lessons can be learnt from this grim and potentially tragic kidnapping of a top sportsman. For the sad fact is that, even though Quini's face is a familiar one for millions of Spaniards, the police made little headway in tracking him down during a massive three-week investigation.

And the final breakthrough didn't come until Barcelona president Josep Lluís Nuñez agreed to pay the kidnappers the £530,000 ransom they were demanding.

Even then, the decisive information came not from Spain, but from Geneva, where police tracked down the man aiming to collect

the funds rapidly transferred from a Barcelona bank to a Swiss account.

With the kidnappers coming so close to achieving their criminal aims, one cannot help but fear that other top footballers may suffer the same terrible fate in the future.

How 'safe' are the Keegans, the Rummenigges, the Maradonas or the Beckenbauers of our football world against twisted criminal minds, one wonders?

And the important moral to be learnt from the Quini story — and this is something all our players should bear in mind — is that footballers are at their most vulnerable immediately after matches.

The Spanish police started at an enormous disadvantage because Quini's disappearance wasn't reported for ten hours — ample time for the kidnappers to cover the 200 miles from Barcelona to Zaragoza.

His wife thought it odd that he wasn't at the airport to meet them,

Franz's car

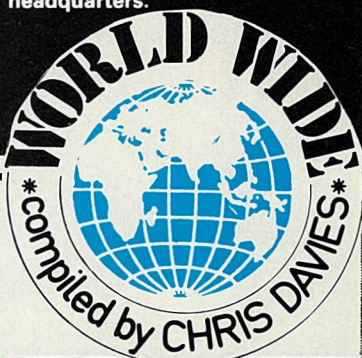
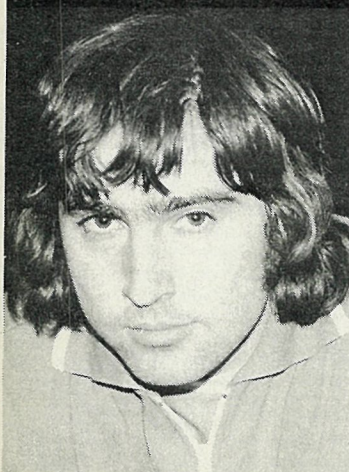
ON his return to Germany, Franz Beckenbauer bought himself a Mercedes 380 SE but his club Hamburger SV have contracts for advertising with BP and the Italian motor company Lancia.

The Italians are helping HSV pay Beckenbauer with a grant of £100,000 a year and persuaded the player to change cars by giving him a Lancia Delta free of charge.

PREPARING for their forthcoming World Cup qualifying campaign, the Soviet Union sent their squad to the Middle East for a week. They played twice against Kuwait, drawing 1-1 and winning 2-0.

ONDRUS MYSTERY

ANTON ONDRUS (below), captain of the Czech team that won the 1976 European Championship, has been out of the game since July. It is said that he was told that if he helped Czechoslovakia in the 1980 European competition he would be granted a transfer to a club in Western Europe, but the Czech F.A. changed their minds and Ondrus has since been inactive with a 'mysterious stomach muscle injury'.



Arnesen to replace Kempes

VALENCIA look to be poised to sign a replacement for Mario Kempes — at one-tenth of the price!

The man is Danish international skipper Frank Arnesen (right), whose contract with Dutch club Ajax expires at the end of the season.

The 23-year-old midfielder travelled to Valencia with fellow-Dane and Ajax team-mate Henning Jensen, and the ex-Real Madrid star was largely responsible for persuading Arnesen to accept the Spanish club's terms.

If all goes well, the Dane — who has been linked with Arsenal — will report for training in July. And Val-



encia will have paid a mere £160,000 signing-on fee, after pocketing £1,600,000 for Mario Kempes' move to River Plate!

FOOTBALL in Peru is going through a crisis caused by inflation and a lack of stars to pull in the crowds.

Hearing that Diego Maradona has been insured against serious injury for £3 million, the Lima newspaper *Mundo Deportivo* said that all the players in Peru were not worth that much altogether.

NO ENTRY

FOR the recent World Cup game between Albania and West Germany (April 1) 102 German journalists applied for Albanian visas. But only 25 were granted, in the usual Albanian custom, and FIFA have been asked to tell the Albanian authorities that if they enter international competitions they must grant entry visas to the Press of visiting teams without any limitations.

BOHEMIANS (Prague), second in the Czech League at the winter break, suffered badly on the re-start with Footballer of the Year Antonin Panenka leaving for SC Rapid in Austria. But they came back into the Championship race with a 2-1 win over League leaders Sparta watched by 14,800 their best crowd for a League match this season.

News flashes

● The East Germans will stage their vital World Cup qualifying game at home to Poland in the 100,000 Zentral-Stadion in Leipzig on October 10th. Six months before the match all the 25,000 best seats have been sold at £2 and £3.50.

● BFC Dynamo Berlin were toppled from top place in the East German First Division after a 2-1 home defeat against FC Vorwärts Frankfurt. For Dynamo, the reigning Champions, this ended a run of 43 unbeaten home League games that began in November, 1977. In that time they scored 150 goals to 23 and dropped only three home points.

● Preparing for their visit to Wembley to meet England in World Cup game, Rumania staged an unofficial friendly against an East German

League XI in Bucharest. A 31,000 crowd watched the game in which 14 Rumanians took part and they won 2-1 with an 86th penalty from Beldeanu.

● Ernst Happel (below), manager-coach of Standard-Liege has confirmed that he has been offered the Hamburger SV job for next season. A former Austrian international in the 50's, he once scored a hat-trick for SC Rapid against Real Madrid while marking the legendary Alfredo di Stéfano.



● Sepp Piontek (below), the German manager of Denmark's national team, has announced that he will not call up the foreign-based professionals for the remainder of Denmark's World Cup qualifying programme. Instead he will choose his team from promising young players in Danish football, who are all amateurs.



● Sigi Held, who played for West Germany in the 1966 World Cup, is giving up playing for Bayer Uerdingen at the end of the season. Now 38, he starts a new career as manager of VfL Bochum on July 1st.

● One of the private TV stations in Italy quizzed all the captains of First Division teams to find the best player and nine of the 16 skippers voted for Dutchman Ruud Krol of Napoli.

● Former French international winger Charly Loubet signed a contract to be manager of Second Division Cannes, and four days later was sacked. He lost his job because he couldn't do it from a prison cell. Last May, Loubet struck an opponent, playing for Auxerre, and was sentenced to four months in prison, though he expected only to be fined.

top stars?

but assumed he'd been whisked off to a radio or TV station for an interview.

And later, she imagined he'd simply gone with team-mates to celebrate Barcelona's 6-0 victory and her husband's two goals.

She finally raised the alarm after phoning team-mates in the early hours of the morning . . . and by then the damage had been well and truly done, and Quini was already installed in that damp and gloomy cellar.

With no training on the following day, players often 'disappear' after games to celebrate victories or to try and forget defeats. And Quini's bitter experience suggests that each player should keep in touch with club or family, possibly by a simple pre-arranged phone call, during this 'vulnerable' period.

In any case, let's hope that the Quini case has taught everybody concerned a valuable lesson, and that it proves to be strictly a one-off experience.



WEMBLEY FIASCO

FOLLOWING the disappointment of England's 2-1 defeat by Spain, Ron Greenwood said his players would have learnt a lot from the game. I hope the F.A. and the Wembley authorities have also learnt a lesson.

An international at Wembley is not cheap, and a father with two sons can easily spend £50 for the 'pleasure'. Forgetting the football (sadly, too much of England's football against Spain was forgettable), supporters deserve a better deal.

I paid £1.50 to park my car, only to be told by a skinhead attendant that I'd have to be in it straight after the end to move it "otherwise people won't be able to get out". Obviously it doesn't occur to those in control of the car parks that people may not want to leave right on the final whistle.

Once inside the stadium I bought a cheese roll and a beer . . . and had just about enough change out of £1 to buy an evening paper.

Upon entering the Press room I was given a team-sheet, which contained no less than seven errors. Osman and Rob-

son were incorrectly numbered, while five of the Spanish side were wrongly named or numbered.

These team-sheets were given to all journalists and I pity my colleagues on television and radio, who had all sorts of problems. Even when the true teams were displayed on the electric scoreboard all was not well. By now, it should be known that Juanito is Juanito and NOT Juan Gomez, even though that is his real name.

In the programme most of the ages for the England players were a year below their true age, shades of Hollywood.

After the game we made our way down to the interview room, only to be stopped by a Wembley official who, of course, was only doing his job. For years the Press ticket has been sufficient to take us through; suddenly we needed a red card. There was a five minute delay while an F.A. official sorted it out. The Spanish Press were not impressed.

At the conference there was no interpreter; an English journalist who speaks some Spanish did the best he could, but to me it smacked of bad organisation.

HOLLAND BOSS WRITES OFF WORLD CUP CHANCES



Holland's 1-0 win against the French (left) was an encouraging start for new international boss Kees Rijvers (above).

KEES Rijvers is a trainer, born and bred. Diminutive, gold-rimmed glasses perched upon a small neat face, Rijvers has walked into the job of the Dutch number one at just about the worst time imaginable.

The former coach of PSV Eindhoven, whom he guided to success at home and abroad in the mid 1970's, feels like the newly appointed captain of the Titanic — just after the notorious impact. The man charged with saving what he can from the wreckage.

At 55, Rijvers brings a wealth of experience to a desperately difficult job. Fading stars at international level, a glorious recent past, a nation of dwindling supporters seduced by the best, unimpressed by present mediocrity.

There is much wrong in Dutch football, 1981 vintage, at both club and international level. It will be Rijvers' task to salvage what he can from the international shambles.

Rijvers believes he will get no more than a year and a half out of his established stars like Krol, Schrijvers, Rep and the Van der Kerkhofs.

After that, the youngsters, whose failure cost former manager Jan Zwartkruis his job, must be ready. Clearly, much work needs to be done.

"Our amateur way must be made more professional," Rijvers says. "Even before the age of 12, it is necessary to instruct boys in the correct skills. From eight years to 14 is a vital time. Boys schooled in the wrong basics seldom lose them. But I am a practical man and know what must be done. I will do it on the training field, not in the office or TV studio."

Rijvers signs a five-year contract this summer but he has already enjoyed his first success. A 1-0 win over the French in Rotterdam in March was riches by present Dutch standards.

"Holland may have a difficult five years ahead," he says. "For a start, I need more support and assistants will be appointed to me quite soon. If I do not get that support, I will not last."

"I know it is a very small possibility that we shall go to Spain. But every coach must think positively, even though I believe our chances are slim."

Ironically, Rijvers' long cherished ambition was not the managership of his country's national side, but the job of coach to an English club.

Interest

After Twente Enschede, where he spent six years, PSV asked him to take over, thus ending the interest in moving abroad.

Once he had finished with the Eindhoven club, his thoughts turned to the national job. He was, he said, not worried by the immense task he was presented with upon Zwartkruis' departure.

If Rijvers succeeds, he will not only look like a little General, but have flourished like one. His small frame is dwarfed by his tallest defenders; he is not a coach in the Clough mould with near intimidatory tactics, designed to stir his players.

The Rijvers style is quiet, yet firm, astute and determined, with a valuable inner strength.

He will need every ounce of strength, character and determination to make a success of Europe's toughest national coaching job.

Laurie Cunningham keeps in touch with what's happening back home while recovering from his recent foot operation. The Real Madrid star is making good progress.



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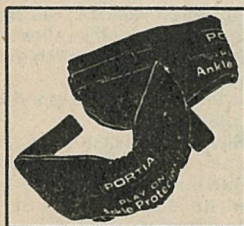


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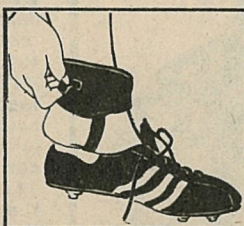
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Scottish 'keepers are much maligned in British soccer. But we show the critics might have given them a false image. Motherwell's flamboyant Hugh Sproat punches clear against Dundee United (left). John Martin, Airdrie's promising youngster, saves bravely from Partick's Tony Higgins (above). The safe hands of Jim Leighton for Aberdeen against St. Mirren (below) and the agility of Celtic's Pat Bonner (right) have helped their clubs to success in Scotland this season.



ON THE BALL CROSSWORD

ACROSS:—

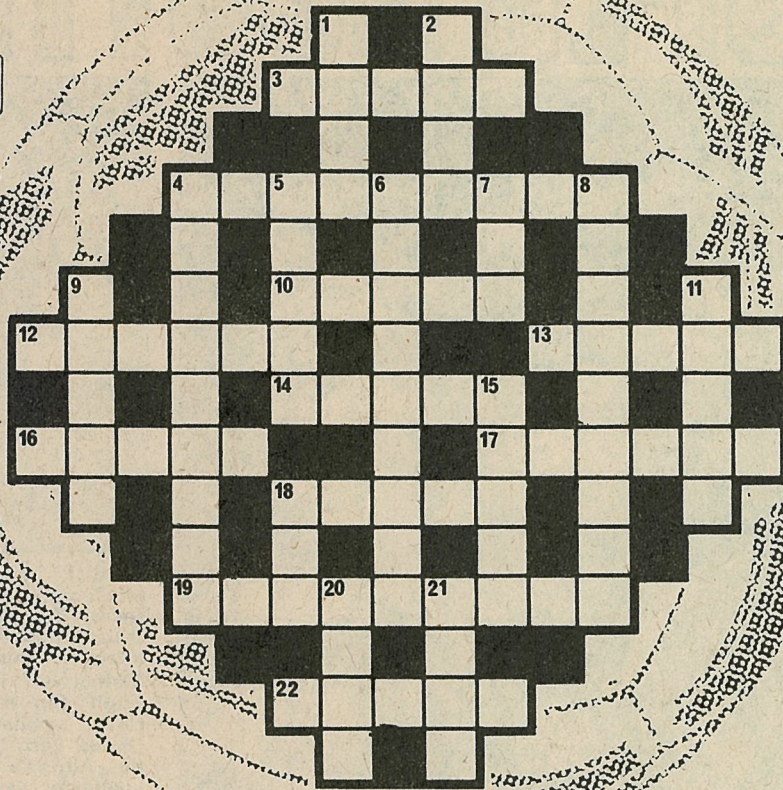
- (3) Nigel —, Grimsby Town goalkeeper. (5)
 (4) Leeds United 'keeper. (4 & 5)
 (10) Fairy-like —, but from a cruel finishing burst! (5)
 (12) John —, Everton defender. (6)
 (13) Cyrille —, W.B.A. striker. (5)
 (14) Gave a dull pain. (5)
 (16) Position or assignment in the team. (5)
 (17) Most top clubs aim to qualify for its competitions. (6)
 (18) Dean —, ground of Bournemouth. (5)
 (19) Leeds United full-back. (5 & 4)
 (22) Irish club. (5)

DOWN:—

- (1) Jimmy —, Bristol City midfielder player. (4)
 (2) Use the initials of Rotherham United and Exeter City to make the

colour of unbleached linen. (4)

- (4) Liverpool midfielder man. (5 & 4)
 (5) Use five letters found in Manchester City to make a dog-like animal. (5)
 (6) Nat —, Footballer of the Year, 1952/53. (9)
 (7) — McNaught, Aston Villa defender. (3)
 (8) Widely known person. (9)
 (9) — Wright, Everton defender. (5)
 (11) Moves with a lame gait. (5)
 (15) Discourage or hinder. (5)
 (18) If Newcastle, Fulham and Cambridge gave LAG; what do Ipswich, Aldershot and Leeds give? (3)
 (20) — Golac, Southampton defender. (4)
 (21) Bryn —, Nottingham Forest defender. (4)



ANSWERS ON PAGE 48

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Third and Fourth Round-Up

A TEAM recently threatened with eviction from their own ground have kept the bailiffs at bay by making a spirited attempt to win promotion from the Fourth Division.

That's Wimbledon — two months ago the innocent victims of one of the most undignified take-overs in football's history.

Remember it? Wimbledon chairman Ron Noads fought a bitter battle to buy control of Crystal Palace, claiming that when he got it he would move The Dons over from their own Plough Lane ground to share Selhurst Park.

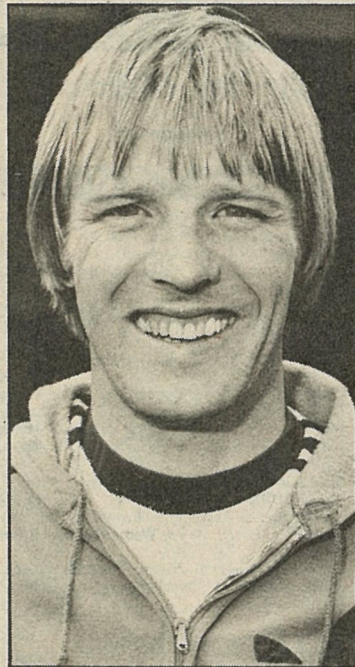
Concern

Wimbledon were clearly the poor relations while all the wheeling and dealing was going on. While everyone expressed concern at what might happen to Palace, the welfare of The Dons seemed to concern very few outside their own little corner of London.

And when the deal was finally completed Wimbledon boss Dario Gradi moved across to take charge of Palace, with his assistant, Dave Bassett, stepping up to take over the manager's chair at Plough Lane.

Bassett has proved something of a miracle worker in getting The Dons into promotion mood after such an upsetting time for them.

Yet ask him the secret of his success and he passes the credit straight on to his players who, he says, have been "magnificent".



had never experienced before. And it has put manager Brian Godfrey in the public eye.

You can be sure that Godfrey's achievements have been noted elsewhere. So don't be surprised if bigger clubs move in to try and lure him away from the West Country.

And let's hope that by the time you read this *Aldershot* have done the decent thing and given their manager's job to Len Walker.

They put him in temporary charge after Tom McAnearney was sacked in January. He responded by putting together a string of results that put Shots in the promotion race.

Yet as the weeks went by all sorts of names were linked with the job — Bill McGarry and Bobby Campbell among them.

Walker seems to have done enough to earn the job permanently. If Aldershot have no intention of giving it to him they should tell him and put him out of his misery.

One man who did move into management last month was Larry

Lloyd, who took charge of Fourth Division *Wigan*.

It was a remarkable about-turn by the enigmatic Brian Clough that enabled Lloyd to take over from the dismissed Ian McNeil.

For not long ago Clough refused *Millwall* permission to talk to him in connection with their player-manager's job. That went instead to Peter Anderson.

Anderson has done a fine job restoring some pride to The Lions Den. Now the signs look hopeful that the permanent cash crisis the club seem to live with could be over.

A new chairman, Alan Thorne, has taken control with the firm promise that all debts will be met. And, more significantly, he claims the first time an outstanding young player is sold simply to raise cash he will resign.

Thorne arrived too late to stop the sale of Tony Kinsella and Dave Mehmet to American club Tampa Bay Rowdies. But his announcement will be welcomed by Anderson — and The Lions long suffering fans.

The wonder of Wimbledon



Dave Bassett (above, left) has steered Wimbledon towards promotion, but Aldershot and Doncaster (left), will contest their right to go up to the Third. Exeter's Richard Forbes (dark shirt, below) goes close against Spurs in the F.A. Cup tie.

"It's the players who have done it, not me," says Bassett — who joined Wimbledon as a player seven years ago and became assistant manager in 1978.

"I just can't praise them too highly for getting themselves into a challenging position after all that has happened here.

"They have done a marvellous job to get us into the thick of the promotion race.

"Their attitude has been tremendous. They did not allow all that was going on to affect them and got on with the job they are paid for.

"I must admit they were not happy at the prospect of leaving Plough Lane and going to play at Selhurst Park. But that idea has

been scrapped for the time being. "We will be staying at our own ground for next season, at least. And everyone here is pleased about that. Let's hope we can keep the results going and get back to the Third Division at the first attempt."

Without any doubt the team of the month in the lower Divisions were *Exeter* — who made people sit up and take notice by knocking Leicester and Newcastle over to reach the Sixth Round of the F.A. Cup.

And they passed up another chance of glory by bowing out to a couple of late goals away to North London giants *Spurs*.

But that Cup run gave the Exeter players a bit of the limelight they

Southend were the first team this season to gain promotion, and their return to Division Three is the third time they have achieved such a feat in ten years. It's now long past time they consolidated in the higher section before making a bid for the Second. Their ground and playing staff are surely good enough for that.

Lincoln will be going up with them, while a couple of the game's famous old names — *Blackpool* and *Hull* — reconcile themselves to dropping into the Fourth.

Hull do it by standing by their management team of Mike Smith and Cyril Lea. But the thought of relegation was too much for *Blackpool* — who sacked manager Alan Ball six months after he moved in.





YOU ARE THE REF

Compiled by CLIVE THOMAS

1

A player's boot splits during a game and he has difficulty in keeping it on. The player is content to continue, but should you stop the game?

2

When taking a throw-in, can a player throw the ball against a colleague's back and carry on up the field with the ball?

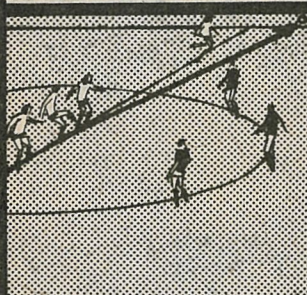


3

Should you allow an attacking player to stand near the goal post but outside the field for a penalty-kick?

4

At the start of a match the player kicking off plays the ball directly into touch without anyone touching it. Should you (a) award a throw-in to the opponents or (b) retake the kick?



5

A player takes a quick free-kick without your signal. Should you (a) take no action, (b) make him retake the kick or (c) award a free-kick against him?



ANSWERS

1. Yes. 2. Yes. Although in a recent game Bournemouth's George Butler went to take a throw-in but pointed out to me that his team-mate was lying on the field injured. His team-mate was only six yards away, but I told George to take the throw-in thinking the player was not badly injured. George then threw the ball at his team-mate and took the rebound. I stopped play and cautioned George for ungentlemanly conduct. George still says he was in order. 3. No. 4. Throw-in to the opponents (a). 5. Make him retake the kick (b).

LINE-UPS...

Saturday, March 21

continued

Second Division

BRISTOL CITY (0) 0
WREXHAM (1) 2 (Carrodus, Fox) 6,667
 Bristol City: Moller, Stevens, Sweeney, Marshall, Hay, Pritchard, Fitzpatrick, Aitken, Tainton, Mabbutt, Whitehead.
 Wrexham: Davies, Hill, Jones, Cegielski, Dwyer, Cartwright, Buxton, Carrodus, Fox, Arkwright, Vinter.

CAMBRIDGE (0) 2 (Reilly, Christie) 3,790
CARDIFF (0) 0
 Cambridge: Key, Evans, Murray, Smith, Fallon, Finney, Streete, Spriggs, Reilly, Lyons, Christie.
 Cardiff: Grobler, Jones, Dwyer, Hughes, Pontin, Thomas, Lewis, Kitchen, Stevens, Ronson, Buchanan.

CHELSEA 0
BLACKBURN 0 14,314
 Chelsea: Borota, Locke, Rofe, Bumstead, Droy, Chivers, Britton, Fillery, Mayes, Walker, Rhoades-Brown (Lee).
 Blackburn: Arnold, Branagan, Rathbone, Kendall, Keeley, Fazackerley, Garner, Busby, Lowey, Burke, Speight.

NOTTS COUNTY (0) 1 (O'Brien) 6,846
ORIENT (0) 0
 Notts Co: Avramovic, Benjamin, O'Brien, Goodwin, Kilcline, Richards, McCulloch, Masson, Christie, Hunt, Hooks.
 Orient: Day, Fisher, Roffey, Taylor (T), Gray, Moores, Chiedozie, Margerison (Godfrey), Jennings, Mayo, Taylor (P).

Q.P.R. (1) 3 (Francis 2 (1 pen), Flanagan) 8,905
DERBY (1) 1 (Powell (B))
 QPR: Burridge, Shanks, Gillard, Fenwick, Wicks, Roeder, Flanagan, Francis, Sealy, Currie, Silkman (King).
 Derby: Jones, Emery, Buckley, Sheridan, McFarland, Powell (S), Powell (B), Hector, Wilson, Swindlehurst, Clayton (Emsen).

SHREWSBURY (0) 1 (Turner) 4,975
NEWCASTLE (0) 0
 Shrewsbury: Wardle, King, Leonard, Turner, Larkin, Griffin, Tong, Atkins, Dungworth, Biggins, Cross.
 Newcastle: Carr, Brownlie, Davies, Martin, Barton (Carney), Halliday, Treweek, Wharton, Harford, Shouder, Walker.

WATFORD (2) 3 (Armstrong, Ward, Blissett) 10,162
BRISTOL ROVERS (0) 1 (Hughes)
 Watford: Sherwood, Rice, Pritchett, Taylor, Sims, Bolton, Ward, Blissett, Armstrong, Jackett, Poskett.
 Bristol Rovers: McAllister, Gillies, Jones, McCaffrey, Hughes, Emmanuel, Williams (C), Williams (D), Randall (Griffiths), Penny, Mabbutt.

WEST HAM (0) 1 (Goddard) 24,394
OLDHAM (0) 1 (Wylyde)
 West Ham: Parkes, Stewart, Lampard, Bonds, Martin, Brush (Barnes), Pearson, Goddard, Cross, Brookings, Pike.
 Oldham: Platt, Edwards, Blair, Keegan, McDonough, Fletcher, Wylyde, Heaton, Steel, Palmer, Atkinson.
 Preston v. Bolton, Sheff Wed v. Grimsby, Swansea v. Luton postponed.

Third Division

CARLISLE (0) 2 (Robson, Beardsley) 4,098
HULL (0) 0

CHARLTON 0
SWINDON 0 6,495

CHESTER (0) 0
ROTHERHAM (1) 1 (Fern) 3,945

CHESTERFIELD (2) 3 (Entwistle (o.g.), Bonnyman, Walker) 5,959
BLACKPOOL (1) 2 (Thompson, Noble)

EXETER (0) 1 (Kellow) 4,224
SHEFF UTD (0) 1 (Charles)

GILLINGHAM (0) 2 (Overton, White pen) 3,916
BRENTFORD (0) 0

MILLWALL (1) 1 (Horrix) 4,901
BARNLEY (0) 1 (Glavin)

OXFORD (1) 2 (Shotton pen, Seacole) 3,646
FULHAM (0) 1

PLYMOUTH (1) 1 (Murphy) 6,042
PORTSMOUTH (0) 0
 Burnley v. Huddersfield, Newport v. Walsall postponed.

Fourth Division

BURY (0) 3 (Johnson 3 (2 pens)) 3,931
ROCHDALE (0) 1 (Hilditch)

CREWE (1) 3 (Chesters, Coyne, Davies) 2,120
NORTHAMPTON (0) 1 (Williams)

DARLINGTON (1) 2 (Stalker, Walsh) 2,522
PETERBOROUGH (0) 0

HALIFAX (0) 0
DONCASTER (2) 3 (Saunders, O'Neill (o.g.), Nimmo) 3,762

LINCOLN (0) 2 (Biggins, Shipley) 3,856
HARTLEPOOL (0) 0

MANSFIELD (1) 1 (Heffernan (o.g.)) 2,606
BOURNEMOUTH (1) 1 (Mooney)

WIGAN (0) 2 (Hutchinson, Walsh (o.g.)) 3,376
TORQUAY (0) 0

Scottish Premier

AIRDRIE (0) 1 (Thompson) 13,000
CELTIC (1) 2 (McGarvey, McLeod)
 Airdrie: Gardiner, Anderson (G), McCluskey, March, Rodger, Erwin, Walker (McKaown), Anderson (N), Flood, Clark, McGuire (Thompson).
 Celtic: Bonner, McGrain, McAdam, Aitken, Provan, Reid, Sullivan, McLeod, Burns, McGarvey, Nicholas.

DUNDEE UNITED (0) 1 (Pettigrew) 5,808
ST MIRREN (0) 2 (Logan, McCormack)
 Dundee Utd: McAlpine, Holt, Hegarty, Narey, Kopel, Kirkwood, Phillip, Bannan, Payne, Pettigrew, Sturrock.
 St Mirren: Thomson, McCormack, Fulton, Copland, McAvety (Logan), Stark, Abercrombie, Weir, McDougall, Richardson, Bone.

MORTON (1) 3 (McNeil 2, Busby) 3,500
HEARTS (0) 0
 Morton: Baines, Hayes, McLaughlin, Orr, Holmes, Rooney (Houston), Busby, Thomson, McNeil, Tolmie, Ritchie (Cochrane).
 Hearts: Brough, Hamilton, Liddell (F), More, Shields, Hamill, MacDonald, Kydd, Mackay, Gibson, Liddell (G) (O'Brien).



Alan Gowling (Bolton)

RANGERS (1) 2 (Redford, Russell) 8,500
KILMARNOCK (0) 0
 Rangers: Stewart, Miller, Forsyth, Jackson, Dawson, Bett, Russell, Redford, Cooper, McAdam, Johnston (McLean).
 Kilmarnock: McCulloch, Robin, Armstrong, McDicken, Cockburn, Clark (Bryce), McLean, Mauchlen, McBride, Bourke, Docherty (Hughes).
 Aberdeen v. Partick postponed.

Scottish First

CLYDEBANK 0
MOTHERWELL 0 900

DUMBARTON (1) 1 (Rankin) 1,000
HIBS (1) 4 (Rae 2, Murray 2)

EAST STIRLING 0
DUNFERMLINE 0 5,088

FALKIRK 0
STIRLING 0 1,700

RESULTS...SCORERS...

HAMILTON (1) 1 (Alexander)
DUNDEE (1) 3 (Sinclair 2, Murphy) 1,500

RAITH (0) 1 (Carroll)
AYR (0) 1 (Connor) 2,300

ST JOHNSTONE (3) 6 (McCoist 4, Kilgour, Brogan)
BERWICK (1) 2 (Tait, Thompson) 2,048

Scottish Second

CLYDE (3) 4 (Masterton 2, Ahearn pen, O'Neill)
ALBION (0) 0 450

COWDENBEATH (1) 5 (Steele 2, Liddle 3)
ALLOA (1) 2 (Holt 2 (1 pen)) 500

FORFAR (0) 1 (Gallacher)
EAST FIFE (1) 2 (Wedderburn, Scott) 700

MEADOWBANK (1) 1 (Scrimgeour (o.g.))
ARBROATH (1) 2 (Gavine, Harley) 250

STENHOUSEMUIR (3) 3 (Jack, Jenkins 2)
QUEEN'S PARK (1) 4 (McCoy, Irvine, McGregor pen, Crawley) 350
Brechin v. QoS, Montrose v. Stranraer postponed.

Sunday, March 22

Third Division

COLCHESTER (1) 1 (Bremner)
READING (2) 2 (Heale 2) 3,705

Fourth Division

ALDERSHOT (2) 3 (Sanford, Lucas, Garwood)
TRANMERE (1) 2 (Kerr, Beamish) 4,493

SCUNTHORPE (0) 2 (Pilling, Green)
SOUTHEND (0) 1 (Hadley) 3,605

WIMBLEDON 0
HEREFORD 0
Port Vale v. Bradford postponed. 3,898

Tuesday, March 24

Second Division

PRESTON (0) 1 (Bruce)
BOLTON (1) 2 (Reid, Gowing) 8,505
Preston: Tunks, Westwell, Burns, Bell, Baxter, Anderson (Blackley), Doyle, Coleman, Bruce, McGee, Naughton.
Bolton: Poole, Nicholson, Walsh, Reid, Jones, Centello, Nikolic (Kidd), Whatmore, Thomas, Hoggan, Gowing.

Third Division

OXFORD (0) 1 (Cassells)
BARNESLEY (0) 1 (Glavin) 4,705

Fourth Division

HALIFAX (1) 1 (McIlwraith pen.)
CREWE (0) 0 2,266

TRANMERE (0) 1 (Evans)
PORT VALE (1) 2 (Beech, Chamberlain (N)) 1,479

YORK (1) 1 (Randall)
PETERBOROUGH (2) 2 (Cooke 2) 1,725

Anglo-Scottish Cup Final (first leg)

CHESTERFIELD (1) 1 (Moss)
NOTTS COUNTY (0) 0 10,190

Scottish Premier

KILMARNOCK (1) 2 (Mauchlen, McLean)
HEARTS (0) 0 1,445
Kilmarnock: McCulloch, Robin, Cockburn, Armstrong, McEwen, McBride, Mauchlen, Bourke, McLean, Doherty.
Hearts: Brough, Hamilton, Shields, More, Liddell (F), Hamill, O'Brien (McShane), Gibson, Liddell (G) (Bowman), MacDonald, Kidd.

Scottish First

CLYDEBANK (0) 1 (Miller)
ST. JOHNSTONE (1) 3 (McNeil, McCoist, Caldwell) 500

EAST STIRLING (0) 0
RAITH (0) 1 (Russell) 1,800



John Gregory (Brighton)

STIRLING (0) 0
DUNDEE (0) 1 (Murphy) 700

Scottish Second

BRECHIN (1) 2 (Graham 2)
QoS (0) 1 (Alexander) 477

MONTROSE 0
FORFAR 0 350

COWDENBEATH (0) 3 (Forrest, Steele, Liddell)
STRANRAER (0) 0 300

Wednesday, March 25

World Cup Qualifying

(Group Two)

BELGIUM (0) 1 (Ceulemans)
REP. OF IRELAND (0) 0 In Brussels 42,000
Belgium: Preud'Homme, Gerets, Millicamps, Meeuwis, Renquin, Mommens (Vercauteren), Van der Eycken, Cloytens, Vendenbergh, Coeck (Wellens), Ceulemans.
Rep. of Ireland: McDonagh, Langan, Martin, Moran, Hughton, Daly, Grealish, Brady, Stapleton (Walsh), Robinson, Heighway.

(Group Three)

TURKEY (0) 0
WALES (0) 1 (Harris) In Ankara 35,000
Turkey: Senol, Onur, Necati, Husnu, Gelik-Sedat, Gungor, Sedat, Volkan, Necdet, Tuncay, Hali (Sinan).
Wales: Davies, Jones, Price, Phillips, Ratcliffe, Flynn, Nicholas, Yorath, James, Harris (Giles), Walsh (Charles).

(Group Six)

SCOTLAND (0) 1 (Wark)
N. IRELAND (0) 1 (Hamilton) At Hampden Park 78,444
Scotland: Rough, McGrain, Gray (F), Burns (Hartford), McLeish, Miller, Wark, Archibald, Gray (A), Gemmill, Robertson.
N. Ireland: Jennings, Nicholl (J), Nicholl (C), O'Neill, Nelson, McCreery, McIlroy, McLelland, Cochrane, Armstrong, Hamilton (Spence).

International

ENGLAND (1) 1 (Hodde)
SPAIN (2) 2 (Satrustegui, Zamora) At Wembley 71,480
England: Clemence, Neal, Sansom, Robson, Butcher, Osman, Keegan, Francis (Barnes), Mariner, Brooking (Wilkins), Hodde.
Spain: Arconada, Camacho, Gordillo, Maceda, Tendillo, Victor (Montero), Juanito (Dani), Alonso, Satrustegui, Zamora, Marcos.

'B' International

SPAIN (2) 3 (Alonso, Rubio pen., Santillana)
ENGLAND (0) 2 (Statham, Martin) In Granada 18,000
Spain: Urruti, Gerrardo (Alberto), Jimenez, Alvarez, Cundi, Diego (Fernandez), Alonso, Suara, Moran, Santillana, Rubio (Esteban).
England: Corrigan, Batson, Statham, Williams Martin, Elliott, Mackenzie (Power), Reeves, Morley, Sunderland, Rix.

Third Division

BLACKPOOL (0) 0
CHARLTON (1) 2 (Smith, Robinson) 4,230

Friday, March 27

Fourth Division

DONCASTER (1) 1 (Dawson)
SCUNTHORPE (0) 0 8,000

SOUTHEND (1) 3 (Gray 2, Mercer)
CREWE (0) 0 5,878

Saturday, March 28

First Division

ARSENAL (1) 1 (Sunderland)
LIVERPOOL (0) 0 47,058
Arsenal: Jennings, Devine, Sansom, Talbot, O'Leary, Young, Hollins (Davis), Sunderland, Stapleton, Nicholas, Rix.
Liverpool: Clemence, Neal, Kennedy (A), Irwin, Kennedy (R), Hansen, Dalglish, Lee, Heighway, McDermott, Souness (Case).

ASTON VILLA (2) 2 (Morley, Geddis)
SOUTHAMPTON (1) 1 (Evans (og)) 32,467
Aston Villa: Rimmer, Swain, Williams, Evans, McNaught, Mortimer, Bremner, Shaw, Geddis, Cowans, Morley.
Southampton: Wells, Golac, Holmes, Williams, Watson, Nicholl, Keegan, Channon, Baker, Moran, Ball (Puckett).

COVENTRY (0) 0
TOTTENHAM (0) 1 (Roberts (og)) 18,666
Coventry: Sealey, Thomas, Roberts, Blair (Whitton), Dyson, Gillespie, Coop, Daly, Thompson, English, Hunt.
Tottenham: Aleksic, Hughton, Miller, Roberts, Brooke, Perryman, Ardiles, Archibald, Galvin, Hoddle, Crooks.

CRYSTAL PALACE (0) 0
LEEDS (1) 1 (Parlane) 15,053
Crystal Palace: Barron, Lovell (Murphy), Hinshelwood, Price, Boyle, Gilbert, Bason, Brooks, Walsh, Langley, Hilaire.
Leeds: Lukic, Parkinson, Gray, Flynn, Hart, Cherry, Harris, Hird, Parlane, Stevenson, Graham.

EVERTON (0) 0
MANCHESTER UTD. (0) 1 (Jordan) 25,584
Everton: McDonagh, Gidman, Bailey (Ratcliffe), Wright, Stanley, Ross, McMahon, Eastoe, Varadi, Lodge, O'Keefe.
Man. Utd: Bailey, Nicholl (Macari), Albiston, Moran, McQueen, Buchan, Coppell, Birtles, Jordan, Duxbury, Thomas.

IPSWICH (1) 4 (Muhren, Mariner 2, Thijssen)
SUNDERLAND (1) 1 (Rowell) 25,450
Ipswich: Cooper, Steggle, McCall, Thijssen, Osman, Butcher, Wark, Muhren (O'Callaghan), Mariner, Brazil, Gates.
Sunderland: Siddall, Hinnigan, Bolton, Hindmarch, Elliott, Buckley, Arnott, Brown, Ritchie (Rowell), Bowyer, Cummins.

MANCHESTER CITY (0) 1 (Mackenzie)
BRIGHTON (0) 1 (Gregory) 30,122
Man. City: Corrigan, Ranson, McDonald, Reid, Power, Caton, Tueart (Bennett), Henry, Mackenzie, Hutchison, Reeves.
Brighton: Digweed, Stevens, Williams, Horton, Foster, Lawrenson (Ritchie), Gregory, Smith, Robinson, Stille, McNab.

MIDDLESBROUGH (1) 2 (Batson (og), Shearer)
WBA (0) 1 (Robson) 13,288
Middlesbrough: Platt, Nattrass (Ashcroft), Bailey, Ross, Angus, McAndrew, Cochrane, Proctor, Hodgson, Shearer, Armstrong.
WBA: Godden, Batson, Statham, Moses, Wile, Bennett, Robson, Mills, Regis, Deehan (Brown), Barnes.

NOTTM. FOREST (0) 2 (Francis 2)
NORWICH (1) 1 (Fashanu) 22,353
Nottm. Forest: Shilton, Anderson, Gray (F), Gray (S), Needham (Aas), Burns, Ponte, Wallace, Francis, Walsh, Robertson.
Norwich: Woods, McDowell, Downs, McGuire, Walford, Watson, O'Neill (Symonds), Fashanu, Royle, Padon, Barham.

STOKE 0
BIRMINGHAM 0 14,624
Stoke: Fox, Johnson, Munro, Doyle, O'Callaghan, Dodd, Ursem, Bracewell, Chapman, Heath (Griffiths), Maquire.
Birmingham: Wealdens, Langan, Dennis, Dillon, Gallagher, Todd, Ainscow, Evans, Worthington, Gemmill, Broadhurst.

WOLVES (0) 0
LEICESTER (0) 1 (Melrose) 21,694
Wolves: Bradshaw, Palmer, Parkin, Clarke (Bell), McAlle, Berry, Hibbitt, Carr, Gray, Richards, Eves.
Leicester: Wallington, Williams, Friar, Byrne, May, O'Neill (Smith), Wilson, Melrose, Young, Lynex, MacDonald.

BIG MATCHES OF THE DAY

Saturday,
April 18th

Villa v Nottm. Forest

ASTON VILLA have only beaten Forest once in their last seven League clashes, so they will be looking for better this Saturday. The last time Villa beat Forest was at home 12 months ago when an own-goal by Larry Lloyd gave them victory by the odd one in five.

This will be Forest's 39th League visit to Villa Park, where so far Villa have won 25, Forest seven, and six have been drawn.

Forest have only once scored more than two goals in a game at Villa Park. That was when they won 3-2 in 1958-59. Villa, on the other hand, beat the visiting Forest 5-1 on Easter Monday, 1962.

Ipswich v Arsenal

LAST season Arsenal gained their first win (2-1) in a run of seven visits to Ipswich, but will obviously find it difficult to repeat that performance this Saturday.

At Christmas these two sides fought out a 1-1 draw at Highbury and Ipswich quite understandably have no intention of letting The Gunners steal another point from them.

In 15 League encounters at Portman Road, Ipswich have won six, Arsenal six and three have been drawn.

All previous meetings at Portman Road have been low scoring affairs with only one victory by as much as a three-goal margin. That was in 1974-75 when Ipswich won 3-0 (Mike Lambert two, Kevin Beattie).

Leeds v Liverpool

LIVERPOOL have certainly stolen a march on Leeds in recent years, for United have only one victory to their credit in the last 17 games between these two clubs. That was at Leeds in 1973-74 when Mick Jones got the only goal. Since then Liverpool have won four and drawn two games at Elland Road and won five and drawn two at Anfield.

Earlier this season Leeds surprised The Reds by holding them to a goalless draw at Anfield, the first such result in 21 meetings.

United's biggest win over Liverpool at Elland Road was back in 1932-33 when they scored five without reply.

Swansea v Cardiff

THIS will be only the 26th meeting of these two South Wales sides, and so far Swansea have won nine, Cardiff nine and seven games have been drawn.

Previous clashes have gone very much in favour of the home side, each having gained only one victory on the other's ground. City's only win at Vetch Field was 3-1 in October, 1958, while, oddly enough, The Swans gained their solitary League victory over Cardiff at Ninian Park during the same season — 1-0.

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1980 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Wolves' Cup
1979 F.A. CUP FINAL
Arsenal v. Man. Utd.
1979 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Nott'ham F. v Southampton
1978 EUROPEAN CUP FINAL
Liverpool v. Bruges
1978 F.A. CUP FINAL
Ipswich v. Arsenal
1978 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Nottingham Forest v. Liverpool
1978 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Nottingham F. v. Liverpool
1977 EUROPEAN CUP FINAL
Liverpool v. Borussia MGB
1977 BATTLE OF THE GIANTS
Manchester Utd v. Liverpool
1977 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Villa's Hat-trick.
1976 UEFA CUP
Liverpool v. Bruges
1976 FA CUP FINAL
Super Saints!
1976 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Man. City v. Newcastle
1976 KINGS OF SCOTLAND
Rangers v. Hearts
1975 F.A. CUP FINAL
Hail To The Hammers!
1975 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Viva The Villa!
1974 F.A. CUP FINAL
Liverpool's Cup
1974 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Wonderful Wolves!
1973 F.A. CUP FINAL
Sunderland's Cup
1973 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Spurs v. Norwich
1972 F.A. CUP FINAL
Leeds v. Arsenal
1972 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Salute to Stoke!
1971 F.A. CUP FINAL
Arsenal v. Liverpool
1971 EURO CUP WINNERS
Chelsea v. R. Madrid
1971 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Spurs v. Aston Villa
1970 F.A. CUP FINAL
Chelsea's Cup
1966/70 WORLD CUP
Finals & Semi-Finals
1968 EUROPEAN CUP FINAL
Man. Utd. v. Benfica
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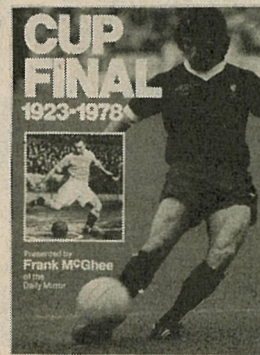
FA CUP FINALS

*1980 W. Ham 1, Arsenal 0 200ft/400ft
Also col sound 200ft/400ft
*1979 Arsenal 3, Man. Utd. 2 200ft/400ft
Also col sound 200ft/400ft
*1978 Ipswich 1, Arsenal 0 200ft
Also col sound 200ft
*1977 Man. Utd. 2, Liverpool 1 200ft
Also col sound 200ft
*1976 Southampton 1, Man. Utd. 0 200ft
Also col sound 200ft
*1975 West Ham 2, Fulham 0 200ft
Also col sound 200ft
*1974 Liverpool 3, N'castle 0 200ft
Also col sound 200ft
*1973 Sunderland 1, Leeds 0 200ft
Also col sound 200ft
1973 Semi: Leeds 1, Wolves 0 100ft
*1972 Leeds 1, Arsenal 0 100ft
Also col sound 200ft
*1971 Arsenal 2, Liverpool 1 200ft
Also col sound 200ft

1970 Chelsea 2, Leeds 2 100ft
1970 Chelsea 2, Leeds 1 100ft
1969 Man City 1, Leicester 0 100ft
1968 WBA 1, Everton 0 200ft
1967 Spurs 2, Chelsea 1 200ft
1966 Everton 3, Sheff. Wed. 2 300ft
1965 Liverpool 2, Leeds 1 200ft
1964 West Ham 3, Preston 2 200ft
1963 Man. Utd 3, Leicester 1 200ft
'2 Spurs 3, Burnley 1 100ft
*1961 Spurs, Leicester 100ft
Also col sound 100ft.
1960 Wolves 3, Blackburn 0 100ft
1959 Nott'ham F. 2, Luton 1 100ft
1958 Bolton 2, Man. Utd. 0 100ft
1957 Aston Villa 2, Man. Utd. 1 100ft
1953 Blackpool 4, Bolton 3 100ft
1954 to 1956 also available 100ft

EUROPEAN CUP

*1978 Liverpool 1, Bruges 0 200ft/400ft
Also 400ft col sound



*1977 Liverpool 3 Borussia MGB 1 200ft/300ft
Also 200ft/300ft col sound
*1976 B. Munich 1, St. Etienne 0 200ft/400ft
Also 400ft b/w and colour sound
*1975 B. Munich 2, Leeds 0 150ft
1972 Ajax 2, Inter Milan 0 200ft
1971 Ajax 2, Panathinaikos 0 100ft
1969 Milan 4, Ajax 1 200ft
1968 Man. Utd. 4, Benfica 1 200ft/400ft
Also b/w sound 200ft
1968 Man. Utd. 3, Madrid 3 (semi-final) 200ft
1967 Celtic 2, Inter Milan 1 200ft/400ft
1966 Man. Utd. 5, Benfica 1 200ft
1963 Milan 2, Benfica 1 200ft
1960 R. Madrid 7, Eintracht 3 200ft/400ft

WORLD CUP

*1978 Argentina 3, Holland 1 200ft/400ft
Also col sound 400ft
*1978 Scotland 3, Holland 2 200ft/400ft
Also col sound 400ft
*1978 Argentina 2, France 1 200ft/400ft
Also col sound 400ft
*1978 Holland 2, Italy 1 200ft/400ft
Also col sound 400ft
*1978 Holland 2 West Germany 2 200ft/400ft
Also col sound 400ft
*1978 Brazil 2, Italy 1 200ft/400ft
Also col sound 400ft
*1978 Best Goals of tournament 200ft/400ft
*1978 Scotland v Wales/Czecho 400ft
Also col sound 400ft
*1974 W. Germany 2, Holland 1 200ft
*1974 W. Germany 4, Sweden 2 200ft
*1974 Holland 2, Brazil 0 200ft
*1974 Holland 4, Argentina 0 200ft

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TER PIGGOTT winning his seventh
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*1974 Sweden 2, Yugoslavia 1 200ft
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*1970 Italy 4, W. Germany 3 col silent 200ft
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Also col sound 200ft; also 400ft b/w silent
1966 England 2, Portugal 1 200ft
1966 Hungary 3, Brazil 1 200ft
1966 Korea 3, Portugal 5 200ft

FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP

*1980 Wolves 1, Nott'ham F. 1 200ft
Also col sound 200ft
*1979 Nott'ham F. 3, Southampton 2 200ft
Also col sound 200ft
*1978 Nott'ham F. 1, Liverpool 0 200ft
Also col sound 200ft
*1977 Aston V. 3, Everton 2 200ft
Also col sound 200ft
*1976 Man. City 2, Newcastle 1 200ft
*1975 Aston Villa 1, Norwich 0 100ft
*1974 Wolves 2, Man. City 1 100ft

INTERNATIONALS

*1977 Scotland 2, England 1 400ft
Also col sound 400ft
*1977 England 2, Italy 0 200ft
Also 200ft col sound
*1977 England 0, Holland 2 200ft/400ft
Also 200ft/400ft col sound
1976 Scotland 2, England 1 200ft/400ft
Also 400ft b/w sound
1975 England 5, Scotland 1 200ft
Also 400ft b/w sound
1969 England 4, Scotland 1 200ft
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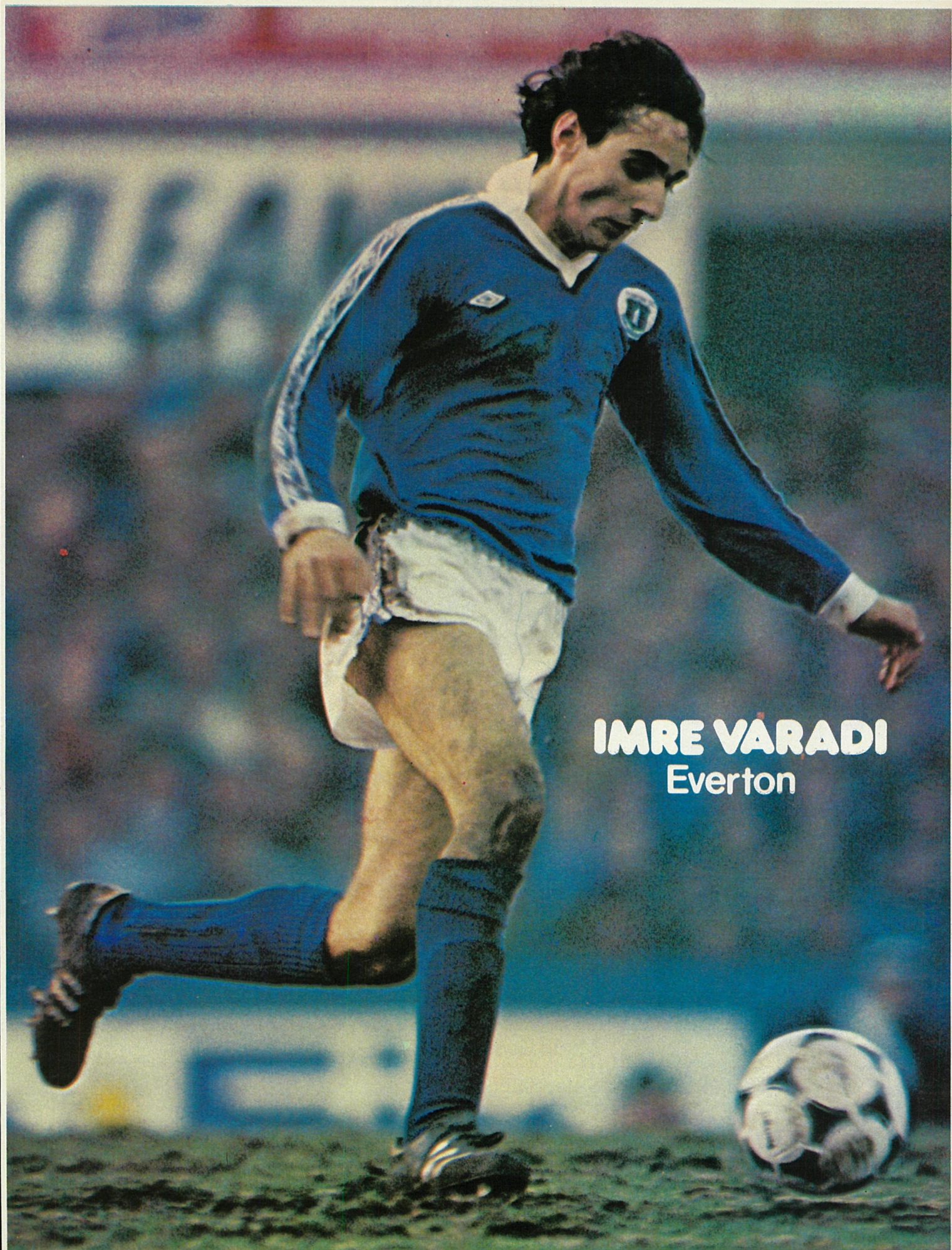
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*1973 Rangers 3, Celtic 2 200ft
*1972 Celtic 6, Hibs 1 100ft

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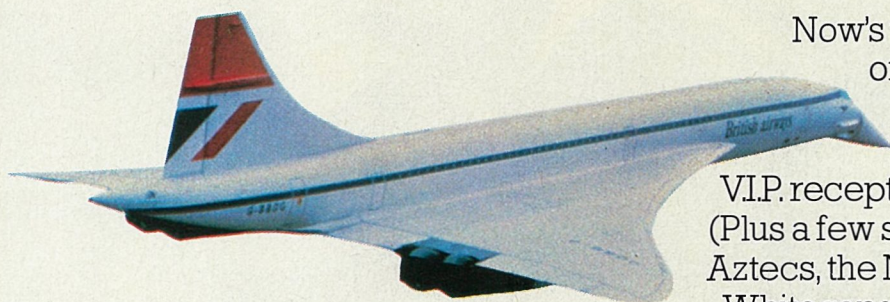
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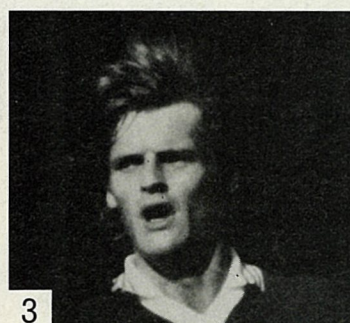
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1



2



3



4



A



B



C



D

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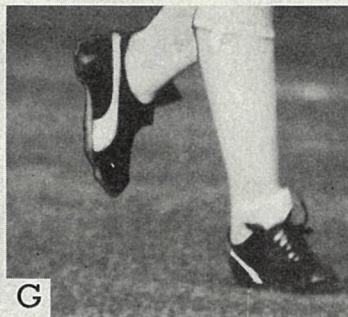
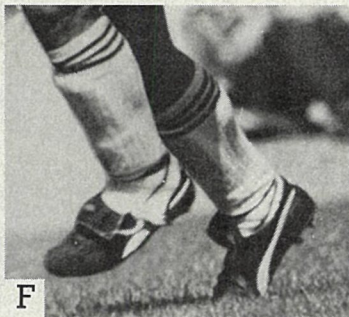
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11. The winner and runners-up will be notified by post by June 22nd 1981. The solution and a list of the prize winners will be available on receipt of a S.A.E. to the address below.
12. By entering the competition competitors will be deemed to have accepted and agreed to abide by these rules.

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BRISTOL ROVERS



BACK ROW (left to right): Shaun Penny, Vaughan Jones, Mike England, Steve Harding, David Palmer (now Bath City), Ashley Griffiths, Keith Brown (now Bath City).

MIDDLE ROW: Phil Bate, Mark Hughes, Tony Pullis, Martin Thomas, Phil Kite, Mark Stevens, Geraint Williams, Steve Dean (now Bath City), Gary Mabbutt.

FRONT ROW: Gary Emmanuel, Don Gillies, Stewart Barrowclough (now Barnsley), Terry Cooper (player/manager), Chic Bates (now Shrewsbury), Mike Barrett, David Williams.

SHOOT!

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

VIRTUE and hard work is the motto of Bristol Rovers. But perhaps as the club slides into the Third Division it should be changed to "Hope springs eternal".

For it is ironic that a club doomed to relegation from before Christmas, and whose manager says he has more problems than any other boss in the League, is full of optimism.

The problems off the field are incredible. The lease on Rovers' tumbledown, decaying Eastville stadium has run out, and a new one will only be fixed by a court

ing more than 60 reserve and youth team goals.

Welsh number two goalkeeper Martin Thomas must fight to keep England youth 'keeper Phil Kite out of the team — and 21-year-old winger Mike Barrett has thrilled the crowd since he was discovered in local amateur soccer.

But it was the signing of striker Paul Randall that did most to bring the club together, and spread the spirit of optimism.

Randall, scorer of 36 goals in 55 games before Rovers sold him to Stoke for £175,000, came back for a knockdown £55,000 fee.



Paul Randall, the returning hero of the Bristol Rovers fans.

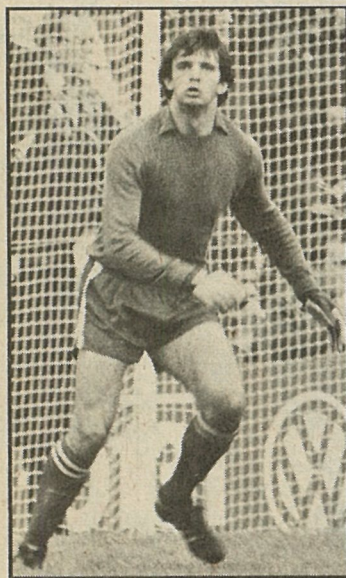
Rovers couldn't even afford that, so two local businessmen launched an appeal fund to cover the fee and Randall's wages to the end of the season. Around £10,000 in donations flooded into the club offices in the first few weeks.

As skipper Aidan McCaffery, a £70,000 buy from Derby, said: "The support is quite incredible, especially when you consider how low the average gate is."

"They took a collection in the crowd, and raised £1,200. I started my career at Newcastle, and there aren't many better fans in the League."

"But if you had tried to take a

'ROVERS WILL RETURN'

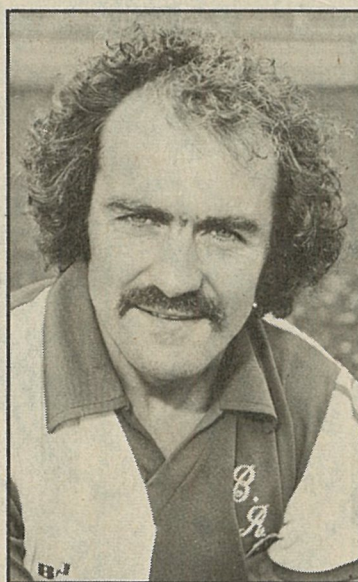


promises manager **TERRY COOPER**

HONOURS

Third Division (South) Champions: 1952-53. Third Division runners-up: 1973-74. Record last season: Second Division: 19th. F.A. Cup: Third Round. League Cup: First Round.

Martin Thomas (left), Rovers' highly rated young 'keeper. Manager Terry Cooper (right and below in action v Southampton in the F.A. Cup) has just signed a 12-month contract.



cap round St James' Park when the team were bottom of the League they would have taken the hat away!"

Cooper, who signed a new 12-month contract despite the disastrous results of his first season, says: "It's been a hard season, but there are signs that we're making progress and can bounce straight back by being promoted at the end of next season."

The visiting talent scouts are queuing outside Cooper's door at Eastville in readiness for Rovers' fall to the lower half of the League.

Mabbutt is the number one target for many of the First Division giants, and other talented youngsters at Rovers are almost equally in demand.

Cooper knows it will be hard to resist the lucrative offers which are certain to follow. But the former Leeds and England full-back will do his best to hold on to the future of the club.

case; there is division in the board room; the club's major shareholder is preparing a fresh takeover attempt after the failure of a similar effort a year ago; and Rovers lost more than £300,000 in the last financial year.

Add to that the fire that burnt down the Eastville main stand at the start of the season. It destroyed the dressing rooms, board room, boot room and offices, and reduced the ground capacity to little over 10,000.

It makes you wonder why anyone should feel inclined to do anything but jump into the neighbouring River Frome.

There's a one word answer... youth. Manager Terry Cooper has played eight teenagers in his League side at different times this season, and they've produced some exciting football, even if it hasn't always got results.

Star teenagers are central-defender Mark Hughes, and the versatile former England youth captain Gary Mabbutt.

Tiny Welsh midfield player Geraint Williams has established himself firmly in the side, and 16-year-old apprentice Steve Williams, another product of Rovers' prolific South Wales talent spotting system, has put his name on the League scoresheet after scor-



K EITH Burkinshaw, the Tottenham manager, must wince every time he looks at the Arsenal team line-up. Because the first name for the past four seasons has been that of Pat Jennings.

Jennings, now 35, has kept goal for Arsenal in nearly 200 senior matches since Burkinshaw perpetrated one of the most embarrassing transfers in modern times. He sold Jennings to fierce North London rivals, Arsenal, in August, 1977, for the staggeringly cheap fee of £45,000.

Since then Jennings has scarcely made an error between the posts for The Gunners. Meanwhile, Spurs have tried Barry Daines, Mark Kendall and the unlucky Milija Aleksic without finding too permanent a successor.

And to rub it in, Pat did not concede a goal in the first four matches he played against his former club as Arsenal collected a maximum eight points.

Mistake

Burkinshaw freely admits he made a major mistake when he allowed former Spurs manager Terry Neill to buy Jennings: "Perhaps I thought Pat's career was coming to an end. But he's certainly proved me wrong."

Jennings has a record 84 caps for Northern Ireland and Burkinshaw can only reproach himself as the softly spoken legend launches himself towards 100 — and the way he's playing at the moment three figures are well within his compass.

Arsenal, in fact, have profited handsomely in recent years from Tottenham's judgment.

In addition to Jennings, there are the cases of Willie Young and Steve Walford. The Scottish centre-half went to Highbury from White Hart Lane in March, 1977, for just £80,000, and he was followed

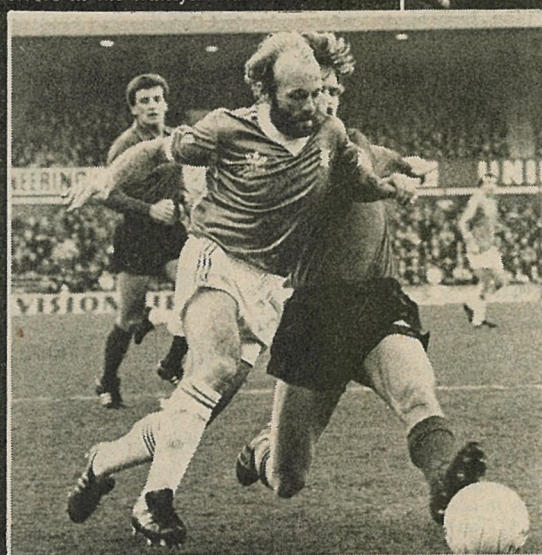
the transfer market, Brian Clough doesn't make many errors. But he dropped a clanger when he sold a small, balding, determined Scotsman to Birmingham for £150,000 in July, 1979.

In his first season at St. Andrews, Archie Gemmill masterminded Birmingham's Second Division promotion campaign with a string of inspiring performances in midfield.

Forest have subsequently struggled to fill the gap caused by the departure of Gemmill, who captains both Birmingham and Scotland. He recalls how his spell with Forest ended: "I was chatting with Peter Taylor about the future, when he told me that the future was quite simple — the club had got Asa Hartford to replace me."

"I was offered the chance to stay

Graeme Souness (right) was released cheaply by Spurs before going to Middlesbrough. Archie Gemmill (below) was one of Brian Clough's few errors in the transfer market.



TRANSFER

by classy central-defender Walford in August that year for £25,000. Arsenal have just sold Walford to Norwich for £175,000 — a 700 per cent increase!

But Arsenal themselves must shudder whenever they play West Bromwich Albion. For at right-back they are opposed by England 'B' international Brendon Batson, who made only ten League appearances for them before they let him go to Cambridge in January, 1974, for the paltry sum of £6,000.

Cambridge were then managed by Ron Atkinson. And, when he went to The Hawthorns, he wasted no time signing Brendon for £30,000 in February, 1978. In the past three years, Batson has developed into one of the most effective attacking full-backs in the game — just the sort of player, many Arsenal fans will say, to blend with Kenny Sansom on the left. Batson has played in all three England 'B' matches this season.

When it comes to dealings on

at Forest. But playing in the reserves didn't appeal. Nevertheless, I still rate Brian Clough as a great manager."

Gemmill's influence in midfield was as important to Forest as Graeme Souness' is to Liverpool. The Scottish international who forms such an effective quartet with Ray Kennedy, Terry McDermott and Sammy Lee was once with Spurs. But he could not settle in London and was transferred to Middlesbrough without playing a League game for Spurs. He built his reputation on Teesside before moving to Anfield for £352,000 in January, 1978. And now look what's happened.

Mike Flanagan also began his career at White Hart Lane but, like Souness, left before he made his senior debut.

Flanagan travelled across London to Charlton Athletic, where he had a prolific career and gained England 'B' honours. He then left Crystal Palace and is now playing for Queens Park Rangers.

Forest may have got it wrong when they sold Gemmill to Birmingham, but nearly six years previously Dave Mackay, then manager of Forest, shrewdly invested £40,000 in midfield player Ian Bowyer.

Bowyer, released earlier by Manchester City, left Orient for the City Ground in October, 1973, and remained there through Forest's triumphs until last January, when he joined Sunderland for £275,000. In a little over seven years, Bowyer's value had increased by almost 700 per cent and Orient were left cursing their decision to sell him so cheaply.

Another significant figure in Forest's success since his £500,000 transfer from Leeds in July, 1979 has been left-back Frank Gray.

Leeds might have been boosting their bank balance by selling Gray. But the club certainly did not help things on the pitch. Gray has never been satisfactorily replaced and Leeds have even resorted to playing elder brother Eddie, one of



the most exciting wingers in the First Division during the past decade, at left-back.

Every successful team needs a good goalkeeper. And Ipswich's dazzling season has been a triumph for their last line of defence, Paul Cooper.

His agility and reflexes are superb, but Cooper's speciality is penalties. He has saved more than half of those he has faced during the past two seasons — an astonishing feat.

You may think Ipswich had to delve deep into their coffers to buy Cooper. But nothing could be further from the truth. He was bought from Birmingham in June, 1974, for just £30,000 but is now approaching 250 League appearances for Ipswich.

Lost out

Frank Worthington's career embraces Huddersfield, Leicester, Bolton, Birmingham and now Tampa Bay Rowdies. Of those, the club that really lost out was Leicester.

They sold him to Bolton in October, 1977, for £90,000. He was almost 29, but any thoughts that his career was nearly finished were quickly scotched as he showed none of his skill and cunning had disappeared.

Worthington's form, in fact, so impressed Birmingham manager Jim Smith that he paid £150,000 for his services in November, 1979. So Bolton made £60,000 profit, while Leicester kicked themselves for letting him go.

This season City have been struggling to stay in the First Division and could have used a player with experience. Like Eddie Kelly, who captained them to promotion last season. He's now operating in a similar role for Notts County after being given a free transfer by Leicester.

West Ham's free scoring striker

David Cross is another subject of transfer embarrassment. Norwich, Coventry and West Bromwich all passed him on before Hammers paid no more than £180,000 in December, 1977. Since then, his prolific scoring exploits — especially this season — have helped Second Division West Ham to the peaks of success.

Did Aston Villa slip up when they cancelled Steve Hunt's registration after just four full League appearances? Hunt furthered his experience with New York Cosmos in the United States before Coventry brought him back to the Football League in August, 1978, for £40,000. Now he is having an outstanding season at Highfield Road.

Most managers are shrewd judges of a player's talent and worth. But occasionally they get it hopelessly wrong.

It is a case of: Think before you sell. Otherwise you may regret it...

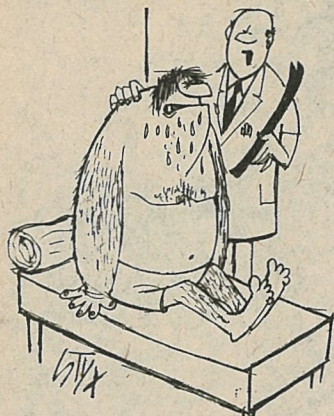


BLUNDERS

Pat Jennings (right) has constantly proved a source of embarrassment for Spurs boss Keith Burkinshaw, who released him cheaply to rivals Arsenal. The Gunners in turn blundered when they sold Brendon Batson (above) to Cambridge, while West Ham striker David Cross (left) has been passed on by Norwich, Coventry and WBA.



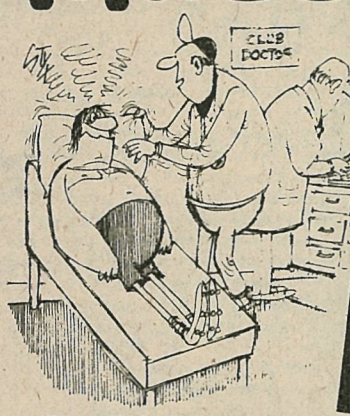
FOOTBALL FUNNIES



"While I'm looking at your damaged nerve, I want you to bite on this iron bar."



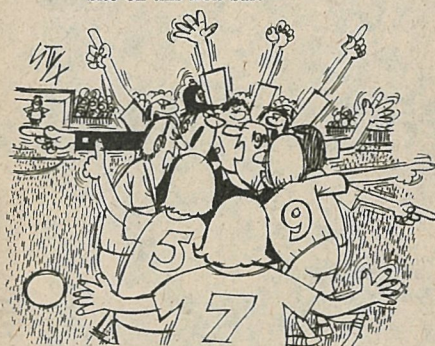
"You take off your boots and pick up a prayer mat before you go in..."



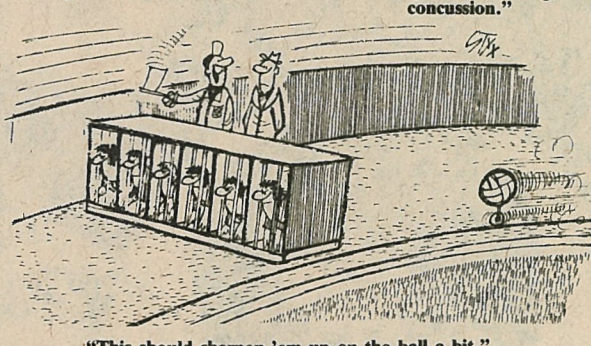
"I would have taken you off earlier, but it's always difficult to tell when you're suffering from concussion."



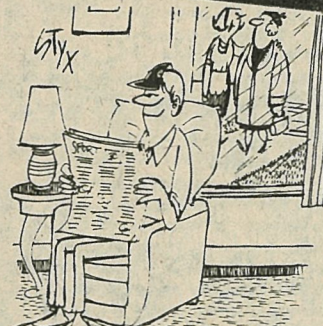
This week Jeff Wealds, Birmingham City goalkeeper, selects the jokes specially drawn by our cartoonist Styx.



"Not you again..."



"This should sharpen 'em up on the ball a bit."



"Don't forget to congratulate him on his second-half appearance for England."

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'I almost quit'

**says
JOHN
RICHARDS**



IF ANYONE set out to promote an acceptable image of today's modern footballer, sadly tarnished by accusations of petulance and excessive wage and transfer demands, then they need look no further than John Richards.

Now in his 12th year as a professional with Wolverhampton Wanderers, Richards is every inch the perfect ambassador for footballers — and football.

Playing as he has done in the furnace fire of the penalty-area, John has managed to retain a temperament and record bordering on the saintly.

With typical modesty, John passes much of the credit for that to a former boss at Molineux, Bill McGarry.

"I remember Bill taking me to one side very early on in my career, and drumming it into me that it just doesn't pay to retaliate, or rant and rave, and get yourself, and your team, into unnecessary trouble," says John.

'Smile'

"Bill used to say 'if they crack you, just get up and smile, and show them it hasn't affected you'.

"That really upsets them. It's even better if you can stick the ball in the net — and smile again. You can't do that if you've been sent off for retaliation.

"Mind you, I don't think there are as many so-called thugs as some people would have you believe.

"The way I see it, 95 per cent of the blokes I come up against are genuine defenders, only trying to do their job to the best of their ability. There are knocks on both sides of the fence, and most of them are accidental.

"Obviously there are times when I've gritted my teeth after taking a knock, and thought to myself 'he really meant that'. But that's when I try to remember Bill McGarry's words."

Just three bookings in his professional career shows how well Richards has heeded that advice. He was sent off for the first time at League level in a game against Aston Villa last season, and still bitterly disputes the decision.

"I wrote a long letter declaring my innocence, and pointing out my previous good record, when the case went before the disciplinary board," said John. "But as the sending off only brought my points tally up to 12, it didn't really make any difference."

But right now, despite the fact that Wolves are still not clear of the First Division relegation struggle, Richards is too busy enjoying his new role as team captain to worry about disputing anything.

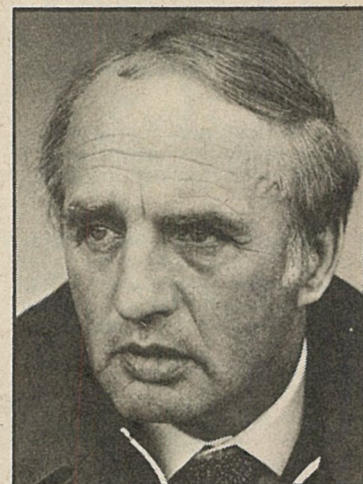
"I've been club captain for about five years now, but during that time, it never really occurred to me that I'd be asked to take over the team captaincy," John said.

"To be honest, I'd always felt that playing up front wasn't the best position for a skipper. But when Emlyn Hughes was suspended earlier this season, the manager, John Barnwell, asked me to take over, and I can honestly say I've enjoyed every single minute of it.

"I believe the responsibility has helped my game. I've become far more aware of all my team-mates, and their jobs.

"When I go back to help out at corners, or set pieces, it's my job to ginger the other lads up — keep them on their toes — and even have a go at them when the need arises."

It's a tribute to Richards that he's as enthusiastic now as he was when he first broke into the



Former Wolves boss Bill McGarry.

Wolves side, because a couple of years ago it really did look as if his playing days were numbered.

"I came very close to calling it a day around September, 1978," revealed John.

"I'd had two operations on my troublesome knee, and was playing again, but I knew I was well below par, and that there was no way that my knee was going to stand up to a full season.

"I didn't really want to have another operation, but the specialists I visited all told me that they just didn't know what was causing the continued trouble.

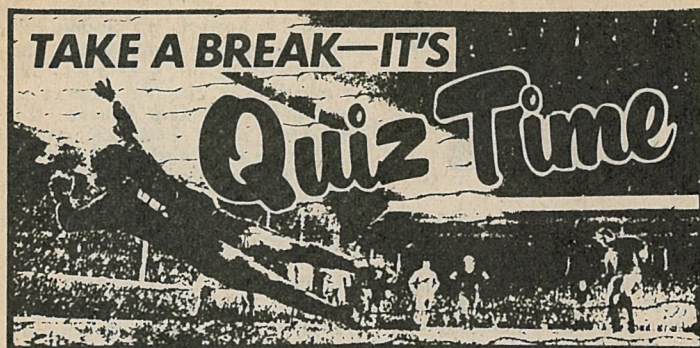
Re-grown

"Eventually I found a specialist who had a theory, and he persuaded me to let him open up the knee again to have a look. He found that part of an old cartilage had re-grown and was catching between the joints.

"It's a pretty uncommon thing to happen, but I was delighted, because I knew with that removed, the trouble had been finally cleared up once and for all.

"That's probably why I'm still so enthusiastic about the game. You never know how much you enjoy something until it looks like being taken away from you. And that's how I felt, and still feel, about football.

"I know I can't go on for ever, especially in the kind of role I play. But I reckon I've got at least two or three years of top class soccer left in me yet, and I'm determined to enjoy them to the full."



TAKE A BREAK—IT'S

Quiz Time

STRIKERS

1. Aston Villa striker David Geddis began his League career with Leicester City, Everton or Ipswich Town?
2. Peter Houghton scored a hat-trick recently for which Fourth Division club against Tranmere Rovers?
3. Sheffield Wednesday's Andy McCulloch has played for four other League clubs. Queens Park Rangers, Cardiff City and Oxford United are three . . . can you name the other one?



4. Which one of these players — Bob Hatton (Sheffield United), Neil Whatmore (above, Bolton) or Gerry Gow (Manchester City) — is not a recognised striker?
5. Trevor Whymark has been scoring goals for which Second Division club this season?

TRUE or FALSE?



1. Third Division Burnley have won the Football League Championship on two occasions — in 1920-21 and 1959-60.
2. Scottish Second club Alloa are nicknamed The Bees.
3. Sammy Nelson (above) came on as a substitute for John Devine during Arsenal's 1-0 defeat by West Ham at Wembley in last season's F.A. Cup Final.
4. Leeds United striker Derek Parlane is a full Scotland international player.
5. Raith Rovers play their home Scottish First Division games at Stark's Park.

TRACE A TEAM

The names of 12 past or present Derby County players are spelt out in this frame in straight lines, either horizontally, vertically or diagonally and forwards or backwards. How many can you find?

A	B	D	L	O	T	G	A	L	Y	E	X
A	E	R	B	E	N	Y	N	L	J	A	M
I	N	N	W	A	E	R	A	A	R	E	J
D	A	D	G	L	M	D	E	N	E	S	J
N	O	N	I	H	U	N	O	T	P	N	V
A	A	B	A	N	U	T	O	O	R	L	E
L	R	I	C	E	E	M	W	S	G	A	H
R	O	A	B	L	U	E	S	O	M	S	C
A	N	N	D	R	L	C	M	H	R	E	O
F	I	D	R	L	S	T	I	E	N	E	K
C	I	A	E	E	L	J	O	P	R	E	R
M	Y	R	H	O	N	F	U	M	O	Y	B

PICTURE PUZZLE



Study the photograph, taken during a Coventry City v. Ipswich Town game this season and see if you can answer the following questions.

1. Who is the Ipswich Town player?
2. He is a full international for which country?
3. Can you identify the Coventry City star on the left?
4. The game was played at Highfield Road in February. Did Bobby Robson's men win 2-0, 3-0 or 4-0?

ANSWERS:

TRACE-A-TEAM: Middleton, McFarland, Langan, Osgood, Powell, Daily, Emery, Murray, Duncan, Carter, Emson, Biley. TRUE OR FALSE: 1. True, 2. False — they are known as The Wasps, 3. True, 4. True, 5. True. PICTURE PUZZLE: 1. Alan Brazil, 2. Scotland, 3. Gary Gillespie, 4. 4-0. STRIKERS: 1. Ipswich Town, 2. Wigan Athletic, 3. Brentford, 4. Gow, 5. Grimsby Town.



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ON THE BALL ANSWERS

ACROSS:— (3) Batch. (4) John Lukic. (10) Elfin. (12) Gidman. (13) Regis. (14) Ached. (16) Place. (17) Europe. (18) Court. (19) Eddie Gray. (22) Larne.

DOWN:— (1) Mann. (2) Ecu. (4) Jimmy Case. (5) Hyena. (6) Lofthouse. (7) Ken. (8) Celebrity. (9) Billy. (11) Limps. (15) Deter. (18) Cod. (20) Ivan. (21) Gunn.

'Rangers second only to West Ham'

JOHN Burrige believes the battle to fill the minor places in the Second Division promotion race will go on until the very last Saturday of the season. And although his own Q.P.R. are unlikely to be involved in the final scramble, he reckons they deserve promotion more than any of those still in contention.

"To my mind, our results and performances over the past few months have been second only to West Ham in the Division," says John. "We deserve to go up because the players and manager here are geared to the First Division."

"If the club hadn't got off to such a bad start to the season, then we'd have been racing certainties to go up. And we'd certainly have given The Hammers a better run for their money."

"As it was, when Terry Venables took over here, the club were fourth from bottom, and looking more like candidates for relegation."

"The fact we're in contention for one of those top three places shows just how much of a transformation there has been at Rangers."

"Go out now and put your money on us to gain promotion next season, because we'll be racing certainties," declared Budgie. "By then Terry will have got us functioning together exactly as he wants."

"Despite what we've achieved in the second half of this season, we all know there is still plenty of room for improvement. We've got some very good players here, and once Terry settles on the right blend and playing pattern, there will be no stopping us."

Certainly Burrige is much happier now than



**SAYS
JOHN BURRIDGE**

Rangers' keeper John Burrige on the quagmire of a Loftus Road pitch which the club plan to replace with a synthetic surface.

Artificial turf may shorten players' careers

QUEENS Park Rangers' revolutionary plan to install a £350,000 synthetic pitch at their Loftus Road ground this summer has received a mixed reception from the players who know most about the surface — those who have experienced it in the United States.

Ipswich striker Alan Brazil, who played around 20 matches on 'astro-turf' alongside Trevor Francis for Detroit Express in the summer of 1978, is against artificial pitches eventually replacing grass in this country.

But footballing legend Bobby Moore, captain of England's World Cup-winning team of 1966, says: "The surface encourages skilful play. I'd be quite happy to see it introduced."

For a goalkeeper's view, SHOOT spoke to Alex Stepney, formerly of Manchester United and Dallas

Tornados. He says: "The pitch takes a lot of getting used to. And, because it has a slight camber for drainage purposes, the ball often bounces to the left or right. The bounce is also higher than on grass."

Rangers' present pitch is prone to waterlogging and the revenue lost by a postponed match is money most clubs cannot afford in these days of recession.

If the club do install the synthetic pitch, they intend using it for other events, such as hockey matches and open-air concerts.

The plan might not be enthusiastically received by the Football League, but there is no Football League regulation to prevent play on a man-made pitch.

If Rangers go ahead with the project, will they be at an advantage in their home matches? Brazil says: "Yes. It would be very difficult for opposing teams to go to Loftus Road once a season and adapt."

But as the pitch is always in perfect condition,

he was at the beginning of the season. Then, he was involved in a bitter pay dispute with Crystal Palace, and felt so strongly about his case, he even declined to turn out for the Palace first team.

His manager at Selhurst Park at that time was, of course — Terry Venables. But John insisted that his battle was with former Palace chairman, Ray Bloye, and not Venables.

"It upset me a great deal when some of the Press made it look as if I was against Terry," John explained. "That couldn't have been further from the truth. To my mind Terry Venables is the best coach and manager in the world. That's why I couldn't wait to join him again when the opportunity came up."

"I was certainly getting very frustrated with the way things were dragging on at Palace. Everyone knows my reputation as a dedicated trainer. But at that time I was having to train even harder than usual, because I didn't have a first team game on a Saturday to keep me in tip-top condition."

"And the fact I didn't have something to aim for at the end of the week, meant I needed all my powers of dedication to keep me going through the week."

"But thankfully that's all behind me now. I still have a soft spot for Palace, and their fans because, as I said, my argument was with the chairman. But my loyalty and future is very much with Rangers now."

Effervescent

The Loftus Road crowd have wasted no time in taking the effervescent Burrige to their hearts. With his pre-match routine of somersaults and cartwheels, and his antics during matches, John believes in giving full entertainment value in everything he does.

"The crowd here love the tricks I get up to," he said, "just as they did at Palace. But if I did those things then made a fool of myself by letting in simple goals, they'd soon be on my back. And rightly so. But they know my number one priority is always to win for them."

"If I happen to have the confidence and ability to entertain them into the bargain, then they are going to enjoy every minute of it."

"The supporters, or more appropriately, the lack of them, have been a problem here in recent years. But I believe the ball is very much in the team's court. We've got to go out, play football, and get the kind of results that will virtually compel them to come back."

"When Terry Venables went to Palace, the crowds were only around the 12,000 mark. Last season the average home gate was just short of 30,000. That proves the support is there for any club that serves up the football the public really want to see."

"And I'm looking forward to playing a full part in bringing about a repeat of that success at Rangers."

does this not detract from the entertainment value? Many would argue a wet afternoon in January when the ball gets stuck in the mud is the very essence of football excitement.

Moore, who first started playing soccer in the United States in the 1960's and is now manager of non-League Oxford City, says: "That type of stuff is great for the fans. But not for the purists."

"On 'astro-turf' you know that an accurate pass will go exactly where you want it to. It is less of a lottery than grass. I really enjoyed playing on the artificial surface. It's like a billiard table."

But what are the drawbacks? Those that have played on synthetic pitches were unanimous that sliding tackles were almost impossible because it burns the legs. "Try tackling somebody on your lounge carpet," says Brazil. "That's exactly what it's like. The burns can be painful."

Stepney says: "If the artificial pitch became the norm in Britain, I don't think players' careers would last as long. I'm sure 50 or 60 matches a season on 'astro-turf' would do more harm to a player's limbs than if they were played on grass."

But Rangers are in no doubt that man-made pitches are vital to the game's future.

Secretary Ron Phillips has said: "This will transform football in this country. It will not only guarantee that games are played, but will save many clubs from going out of business as the ground can be used every day of the week if necessary."

CRAIG JOHNSTON realised a ten year ambition when he put pen to paper and signed for Liverpool earlier this month.

He had dreamt about joining the reigning League Champions ever since he saw them in a televised match at home in Australia as a ten-year-old.

"I knew then that I wanted to play for Liverpool," he said. "At the time, Manchester United were the only team that youngsters in Australia talked about, but I wanted to make a career with Liverpool."

"Because I grew up in Australia there is so much interest in this move."

Johnston was born in South Africa, but moved to Australia when he was too young to remember much about it.

Impact

He paid his own travel fares to come to England and accept an invitation of a trial at Middlesbrough, and has made a big impact at Ayresome Park in recent months.

Johnston is currently waiting for clearance on his application to become a British citizen. Already an Under-21 international, he wants to go on and play at senior level for England.

"I've played twice for the Under-21's," says Johnston. "I can't play in competitive games, only friendlies, because I'm not yet a British citizen."

"Obviously moving to Anfield

CRAIG JOHNSTON Liverpool's cut price star

must give my international chances a tremendous boost."

At £650,000, Johnston is Liverpool's most expensive signing to date, although manager Bob Paisley believes the fee to be a bargain. But Craig knows all too well that it might be some considerable time before he establishes himself at Anfield.

"Bob Paisley has promised me that he'll try to get me a game this season," says Johnston. "It will have to be a match of no consequ-

ence to either the relegation battle or the wrestling for the places in Europe."

"I know I must be patient, because very few players walk into the first team at Liverpool. In fact, after witnessing the strength and depth first hand, I reckon I'll have trouble getting into the reserves!"

Terry McDermott is thought to be the man under most pressure now that the 20-year-old Johnston has completed his move from Middlesbrough.

"I thought I could learn to play in Terry's position, but after watching him in the League Cup Final replay I'm not too sure any more. He's incredible."

"I realise my limitations. I like to support the front men. Terry does that so well. If you want to know who my idol is now, it's Terry!"

Johnston could have been playing with the first team now had he signed for the Champions before the transfer deadline. He met Bob Paisley but decided not to rush anything and to sign for them when his contract at Middlesbrough expired at the end of the season.

"We shook hands on the deal and I had every intention from that moment of keeping my side of the bargain," says Johnston. "You can forget what you heard about Nottingham Forest and Leeds. I only had thoughts about joining Liverpool."

"I signed earlier than I thought because I was forced out at Middlesbrough. Things turned very sour for me. A few people at the club were very nasty about the whole affair. I also think I was misunderstood in the town."

"But I don't want to say too much about that episode, because I'm only thinking about the future now."



Craig Johnston in one of his last games for Middlesbrough before his move to Liverpool, taking on Wolves striker Andy Gray.

YOU wouldn't have thought Cyrille Regis, six feet tall and over 13 stone, would need much encouragement to show his aggression.

But the West Brom striker says: "I've been working on a more aggressive approach to my game. I went through a bad patch before Christmas and the boss reckoned it was because I wasn't getting stuck in enough.

"I don't mean going around kicking people, I mean going in for balls that are 40-60 against you. Chasing balls that I used to give up on.

"I've been giving defenders a much harder time recently — and I've suffered a few extra knocks for it too. But at least it's paying dividends in goals, and I certainly

don't mind buying a few bruises for those."

Regis, in fact, looks like having his best ever season for goals. His previous best haul was 18, but this time he hopes to get at least 20.

He's well on the way to achieving that target, and Albion are grateful for his contribution in a season during which they've re-established themselves as one of the country's top clubs.

After running Liverpool close for the Championship in 1978-79, they found themselves at the bottom of the table at the start of the last season. But Regis and the rest of the Albion team never had any doubts that they would recover.

"We came back and finished the season in tenth position, which was tremendous considering our

start. As far as we're concerned, last season was just a one-off. A bit of a freak.

"If you look at our record over the past few seasons, we've been in the top six or so for most of the time. You don't suddenly go from that sort of consistency to becoming a bad side."

West Brom did have problems last year of course. They lost Laurie Cunningham to Real Madrid and new boys Peter Barnes and Gary Owen obviously needed time to settle in.

After their efforts of the previous season, the pressure was also on Albion to lead the Midlands assault on the title.

Says Regis: "We had team meetings to try to sort out what was going wrong, but we couldn't

REGIS IS GETTING TOUGHER

come up with anything specific. I suppose that if you get a bad start, your confidence is low and things keep going wrong.

"We've had a lot more belief in ourselves this season and it's shown in our performances. If we could just have managed a bit more consistency, we might also have been in with a shout for the title."

But Regis will settle for a place in Europe. He's missed playing against Continental sides this season.

"We had two years in Europe, which I enjoyed very much. I know we got knocked out at the first hurdle last year but the season before we got to the last eight of the UEFA Cup.

'Styles'

"Playing in Europe is a little different to League football and it's got to be good for your game to experience new teams and different styles."

Regis would find plenty of chance to play in Europe, of course, if he could win a place in Ron Greenwood's England team. Naturally, it's an ambition of his.

"I'd love to play for England but you only get in by playing consistently well for your club and knocking the chances in. The extra aggression and effort I'm putting in now is helping me do that."

Regis has also done his bit to lift Albion, though he claims their success this season has been a team effort.

"Every player has pulled his weight and has done his bit for the team. When we're all working for each other, we can give any other side a good match. We proved that by beating Liverpool this season.

"I'm really pleased that Tony Godden has done so well in goal. He's so underrated, it's not true.

"He made a couple of mistakes a few years back in games that were televised and he got a lot of stick over those. But he's been fabulous this season. So have all the others at Albion."

NEXT WEEK

Previews of these vital World Cup-ties ENGLAND v RUMANIA

— Ron Greenwood answers the critics.

SCOTLAND v ISRAEL

— Jock Stein reveals his plans.

N. IRELAND v PORTUGAL

Portuguese star who hopes to join Coventry City.

Brian Clough's good and bad buys



Steve Archibald Story part two "My doubts about Spurs".

Ian Bowyer's Sunderland challenge.

Murdo McLeod — Celtic's all-action man.

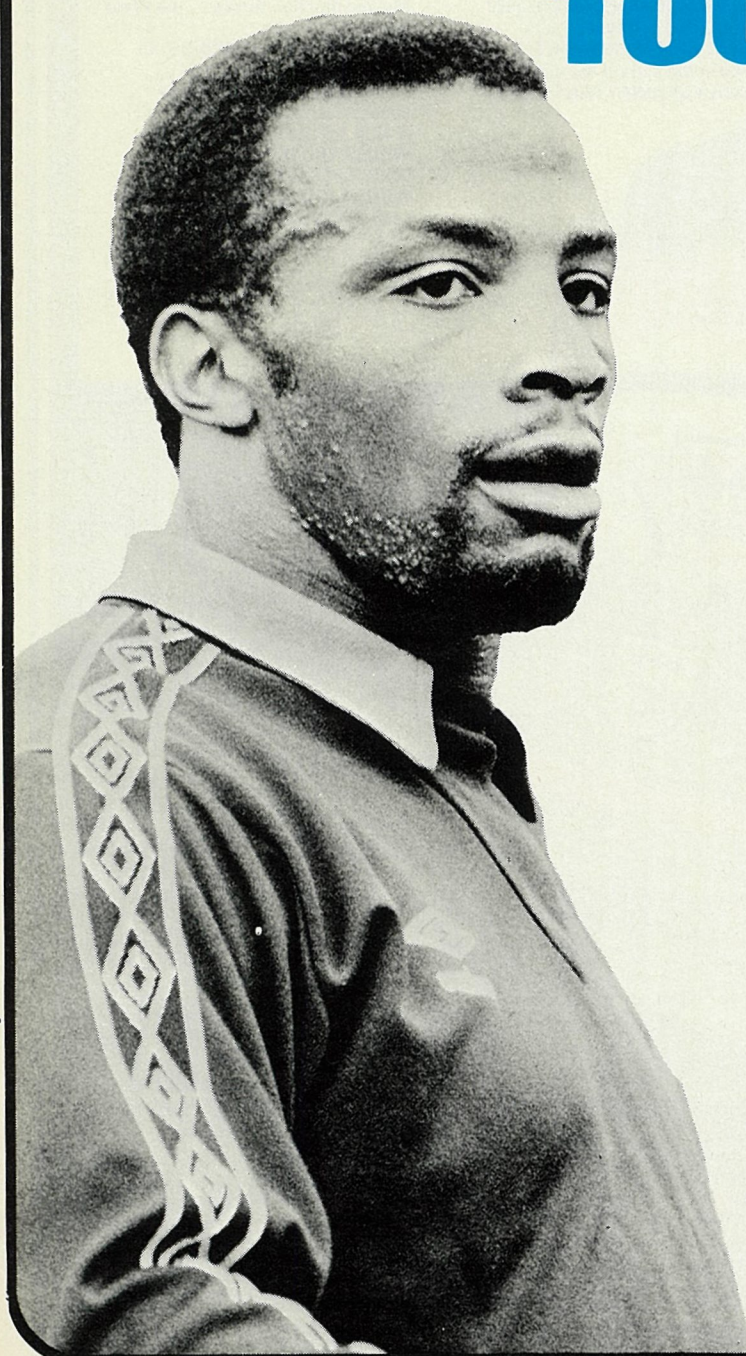
In Colour

England's Revenge + Graeme Souness (Liverpool) + Brian Horton (Brighton) + Gerry Armstrong (Watford and Northern Ireland) + Preston team group + Focus on Gordon Cowans (Villa).

Plus

— Meet Trevor Brooking and win Dunlop football boots and trainers in another exciting competition.

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FOCUS ON

PAUL ALLEN WEST HAM

FULL NAME: Paul Kevin Allen
BIRTHPLACE: Aveley, Essex
BIRTHDATE: August 28, 1962
HEIGHT: 5ft 7ins
WEIGHT: 10st 11lbs
PREVIOUS CLUBS: None
MARRIED: No
CAR: Ford Fiesta
FAVOURITE NEWSPAPERS: Daily Mirror and The Sun
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Billy Bonds
MOST PROMISING TEAM-MATES: Bobby Barnes and schoolboy Alan Dickens
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Liverpool
FOOTBALL HERO OF CHILDHOOD: George Best
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Table tennis, swimming
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENTS: Liam Brady and Terry McDermott
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: 1980 F.A. Cup Final v Arsenal
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Being injured at the start of the season
FRIENDLIEST AWAY FANS: Most

fans are quite friendly
FAVOURITE FOOD & DRINK: Steak and chips, milk
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES AND DISLIKES: Going to the cinema, listening to music/Bad manners, being injured
FAVOURITE HOLIDAY RESORT: I like travelling anywhere abroad
FAVOURITE T.V. STAR, MALE AND FEMALE: Clint Eastwood and Susan George
FAVOURITE ACTIVITY ON DAY OFF: Relaxing
FAVOURITE SINGERS: Supertramp, Bruce Springsteen, Dire Straits, Madness
AFTER-MATCH ROUTINE: Go home and meet friends in the evening
BEST FRIEND: Hope I have many
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: My dad and Ron Boyce — the West Ham youth coach
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: 19 England Youth caps
PERSONAL AMBITION: To be successful, rich and happy
IF NOT A PLAYER, WHAT JOB WOULD YOU DO? No idea
WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? Lady Diana Spencer

Paul Allen

Last May he became the youngest player to appear in an F.A. Cup Final. This year Paul Allen added to his honours when he beat Bobby Moore's record of 18 caps for the England Youth team. Now the West Ham midfield star is looking to add further honours to his collection. Here he is with some of his England Youth caps and despite injury problems this season, Paul can look forward to more caps at Under-21 level next year.